







Matthew Prior Esq.
Ætatis LVII.

THE
HISTORY
OF

His Own Time.

Compiled from the

ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS

Of His late EXCELLENCY

MATTHEW PRIOR Esq;

Revised and Signed by Himself, and Copied
fair for the Press

By Mr. *ADRIAN DRIFT*, His Executor.

*I had rather be thought a good ENGLISHMAN,
than the best POET or greatest SCHOLAR
that ever Wrote.*

MATT. PRIOR.

L O N D O N:

Printed for the EDITOR. MDCCXL.

Price Six Shillings.



Jar
 PA430
 1955
 1746



TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE
E D W A R D
Earl of OXFORD.

My LORD,



H O' I presume to dedicate the following Work to Your Lordship, under the Title of *The History of Mr. PRIOR's Own Time*, I am conscious how little it resembles what Your Lordship might have expected, had Mr. PRIOR lived to finish such an History Himself.

But the chief Materials are entirely His, and on that single

DEDICATION.

Account merit Your Lordship's Regard, however inartificially the Edifice may have been raised. The Taste in general may have a *Gothic* Appearance, but the Workmanship of the Capital Parts is unquestionably *Roman*.

As to what little I have added of my own, or collected from other Writers, in order to fill up the Chasms between Mr. PRIOR's Papers, and connect them in an Historical Form, if it barely answers this honest Purpose, I would hope the Present I now make will not be unacceptable, either to Your Lordship or the Public.

In Mr. PRIOR's Papers, Your Lordship knows, the Peruser will meet with many curious Anecdotes, that are not to be found in any other Memoirs of the same Times: He will see the Motives of many public Transactions, which are usually censured and applauded without being suf-

sufficiently known : He will, in particular, be led thro' the Management of the late War, and the weighty Arguments which prevailed in the following Negotiations of Peace : He will discover the Violence, and at the same Time the Impotence of Party Malice, against a Gentleman whose only Crime was acting up to his Commission, and executing faithfully his Sovereign's Warrants : He will extract a Vindication of Your Great Father, and the other illustrious Persons embarked in the same National Cause, by One who knew them better, and was in Himself an honest Man, than any of Those who have since been employed to blacken their Memory.

I should not have mentioned Your Lordship's Character, had not Mr. PRIOR Himself drawn it in a Piece that cannot be suspected of Flattery, when he intreated You to accept the Execution of his last Will and Testament :

ment: But I cannot help reflecting with Pleasure, that it is to that very Lord HARLEY whom Mr. PRIOR esteemed, in his last Moments, *The justest and kindest Man he should leave behind him in the World*, that I now beg Leave to subscribe,

My LORD,

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient, and

Most Devoted

Humble Servant,

J. Bancks.

P R E F A C E.



R. PRIOR's *Epitaph in Westminster-Abbey, composed by the learned Dr. Freind, by informing the World that he was* * *writing the History of his Own Time, when Death, by a lingering Fever, put a Period both to his Work and his Life, has long made it a Matter of Certainty that he left behind him a great Number of Manuscript Papers, which, considering the Part he bore himself in many national Transactions, the Opportunities he had of being well informed concerning others, and the extraordinary Talents he possessed for every Part of fine Literature, could not fail of being very valuable, and of the utmost Importance to the Publick. It was much regretted therefore, that we had been hitherto deprived of these Manuscripts, and, what was worse, had but little Prospect of ever seeing them appear, unless they got into other Hands than those who had kept them so long concealed.*

How they were at first disposed of, we cannot better learn than from a Paragraph of Mr. PRIOR's Will, which bears date August the 9th, 1721.

*" All my Manuscripts, Negotiations, Com-
" missions, and all Papers whatsoever, whether*

* Sui Temporis Historiam Meditanti
Paulatim obrepens Febris
Operis simul, & Vitæ, Filum abruptit,
Sept. 18. An. Dom. M^oCCXXI.

“ of my public Employments or private Studies, I leave to my Lord Harley and Mr. Adrian Drift, my Executors, or either of them, having first burned such as may not be proper for any future Inspection.

MATT. PRIOR.

Pursuant to the Clause here recited, the Original Papers devolved to Mr. Adrian Drift, who had before beautifully transcribed most of them for the Press, by Mr. PRIOR's own Direction, and as corrected by Himself. The same Gentleman copied them for the Earl of Oxford, his Right Honourable Co-executor. He then gave them to a most intimate Friend, soon after the Decease of Mr. PRIOR, with a strict Injunction not to publish them till after the Death of Him, the said Mr. Drift, which happened at the Beginning of the Year 1738, when he was buried in Westminster-Abbey, according to his earnest Desire, near the Remains of his Dear Master.

From this Time some Hopes were conceived that they might ere long be brought out of that Obscurity, to which their Author seems to have condemned them, and in which they were hitherto inviolably kept. Mr. Drift being dead, the Obligation on his Friend was of course no longer binding. It would be a great Injury to Society in general, if the Writings of great Men, and even such Fragments as were worthy of future Inspection, were to be for ever buried, merely because the Writers were not so happy as to give them

them to the Public themselves: And that nothing of Mr. PRIOR's was preserved, but what was judged worthy of such Inspection, we may gather from Mr. Drift's punctual Regard for all the other Particulars of his Will.

After the Death of the late Charles Forman Esq; who had these Manuscripts in his Possession, and intended to publish them with all convenient Expedition, they were delivered to me; and I have endeavoured with all Faithfulness to execute the Part which that Gentleman had taken on Him. How I have proceeded, the Reader shall know in a very few Words.*

Mr. PRIOR having come into public Employment at the Beginning of King William's Reign, and continued therein till the Accession of His Majesty King George; after which he went thro' a very troublesome Scene that lasted about two Years; I immediately concluded it must be by those two remarkable Periods, the Beginning of his Employments and the End of his Troubles, that his intended History of his Own Time was to have been circumscribed: In which Opinion I was confirmed by the Papers before me. My Business then was to borrow such other Assistance as was necessary to introduce and connect the Manuscripts, and give the whole Work a Form, as much as I could, like that which, in my private Judgment, the Author himself had intended to give it. This is what I have aimed at in the Prose Volume.

* Mr. Forman died April 28, 1739, and was buried at St. Dunstan's in Fleet-Street.

Of the Poems (which have not yet been mentioned) I need only say that they came thro' the same Channels as the Pieces in Prose. Most of them, I doubt not, will testify their own Original. And besides the Satisfaction of reading so many new Pieces of Mr. PRIOR, the Judicious will enjoy no small Pleasure in looking over those of his Friends to Himself, which, contrary to the Custom of other Poets, he modestly suppressed during his Life. The Latin Version of Solomon, which we have also added, as it has been universally applauded, cannot but be very acceptable.

Before I conclude this Preface, I must observe, by Way of Note to the Satire called The Viceroy, that Lord Coningsby and Sir Charles Porter were Lords Justices of Ireland in 1693. And in the next Session of Parliament, a Charge of High Treason was preferred against them in the English House of Commons, by the Earl of Belamont, for Excesses of Power exercised during their Administration: But the Earl laying his Charge too high, the Commons resolved That there were not sufficient Grounds to support it, and so the Measures complained of, as arbitrary and violent, passed without Examination.

I would also here correct an Error of the Press in Page 223, Line 8 of this Volume, by desiring that the Words but one may be added after last Parliament. Less material Faults, if any should be found, the Reader will candidly overlook.



A N
HISTORY
OF THE
NEGOTIATIONS
O F
MATTHEW PRIOR, *Esq;*



BEING to write only of Mr. Prior's Public, or Political Life, it would be needless to take any Notice of his Family and Education, were it not to obviate an erroneons Opinion, which has been industriously propagated by some People, who

Mr. Prior's Youth misrepresented.

B have

The HISTORY of

have represented him *as rais'd from the Bar of a Tavern*. How, and whence this Story had its Rise, and in what a fallacious Dress it has been handed down, may be easily discovered by those who are acquainted with the Virulence of Party Prejudice.

This excellent Poet, industrious and able Statesman, and, what in his Opinion was the most valuable of all Characters, this truly honest Man, was the Son of a reputable Citizen of *London*, where he was born *July 21, 1664*. He was initiated into Literature at the royal Foundation of *Westminster*, under the learned *Dr. Busby*, and finished his Studies at *St. John's College in Cambridge*, of which he was Fellow to the Day of his Death. How injurious therefore is *Bishop Burnet's* Account of him, in a Work which promises the utmost Impartiality, and where a *LYE* is formally condemned, in the severest Language!

Appoint-
ed Secre-
tary at the
Hague
Congress,
1690.

He went young into public Business, being appointed Secretary to King *WILLIAM* and Queen *MARY*, at the Congress held at the *Hague*, in 1690. An Assembly the most honourable to the *English* Nation that is any where to be read of! and of which, with the Occasion of it, I must here give some Account, in order to shew the Dignity and Importance of Mr. *PRIOR's* Office,

Office, even in this early Part of his Life.

LEWIS XIV of *France*, for many Years before this, had been entirely guided by the Dictates of a lawless Ambition, which prompted him to think of enslaving all the neighbouring States, and of acquiring to himself no less than the Empire of *Europe*. He had been but too successful in prosecuting his Scheme; the Nations round him trembled, and nothing but their Dykes had preserved the *Dutch* from being entirely swallowed up by this common Enemy, who triumphantly wintered in one of their * capital Cities. *England* look'd contentedly on, and even favour'd the Destroyer, during the two impolitic Reigns of King CHARLES and King JAMES II. It had therefore the Privilege of being unmolested at present, that it might sink into a State of Security from the seeming Friendship of the Grand Monarch, and so become an easier Prey at a proper Season, when it had either forfeited all its Alliances, or suffered its Allies to be rendered incapable of affording it any Assistance.

Occasion
of that
Congress.

At this critical Juncture, the young Prince of *Orange* coming of Age, was by the Suffrages of the Commonalty advanced to the Dignity of Stadtholder; an

* *Utrecht*.

The HISTORY of

Office that had long been dormant, for want of an Heir of that illustrious Family who was arrived at Years of Maturity. His whole Thoughts were immediately turn'd on defending his Country, and even on reducing that exorbitant Power which *France* had already obtain'd. If he was not so fortunate as the Grandeur of his Design, and the Bravery and Vigilance with which he prosecuted it, might seem to deserve, he had at least the Honour of making a glorious Stand, of shewing LEWIS that he was not altogether invincible, and of winning to himself the Character of a Hero, by the common Consent of Mankind.

When the Miscarriages of King JAMES, and the little Prospect there was of his ever aiming to correct them, had made a Revolution necessary in *England*; the Prince of *Orange*, who was sent for on this Occasion to restore our Liberties, found himself engaged by a new Motive against the *French* Monarch. The abdicated King put himself under the Protection of LEWIS, who promised to endeavour at his Restoration. Accordingly Forces were sent into *Ireland*, and a bloody War soon followed there, as well as in the *Netherlands*. I shall not, however, enter into the History of the *Irish* War, which,
every

every one knows, ended in Favour of the Revolution, and the utter Expulsion of King JAMES out of all his Kingdoms.

But Matters on the Continent were not so suddenly over. King WILLIAM's favourite Project, during his whole Administration both in *Holland* and *England*, was to humble the *French* King, who had rendered himself formidable not to Protestants only, but even to all the Catholic Princes in Christendom. On this Principle was formed the Grand-Alliance, at the Head of which King WILLIAM appeared, and had the Pleasure to see half *Europe* unite under his Conduct, and a Senate of Princes meet to assist his Councils, and second his Wishes. We need only look over the List of illustrious Persons that met at the *Hague* on this Occasion, in order to form an Idea of the Splendor of this Assembly. LEWIS XIV, it has been justly observed, could never boast of any Thing like it. Such a Congress assembled in Honour to him, would have furnished his Poets, Painters, and Historians, with an inexhaustible Fund of Panegyric and Adulation.

The HISTORY of

The Names of the Princes, Princesses, Great Lords and Ladies, that met at the Hague in 1691, after the Arrival of his Majesty King WILLIAM III, of Great Britain.

Persons
present at
it.

THE Elector of *Bavaria*.
 The Elector of *Brandenburg*.
 The Duke of *Lunenburg Zell*.
 The Duke of *Brunswick Wolfenbittel*.
 The Landgrave of *Hesse Cassel*.
 Prince *Christian Lewis* of *Brandenburg*.
 The Marquis of *Gestanaga*, Governor of
 the *Spanish Netherlands*.
 Prince *Waldeck*.
 The Prince of *Nassau*, Governor of *Friesland*, and *Camp-Martial*.
 The Prince of *Nassau Sarburg*.
 The Prince of *Nassau Dillenburg*.
 The Prince of *Nassau Idstein*.
 Prince *Philip Palatine*.
 The Duke of *Saxe-Eisenach*.
 The Landgrave of *Hesse-Darmstadt*, and
 the Prince his Brother.
 The Duke Administrator of *Wittenberg*.
 The Count of *Horn*.
 The Count *d'Erback*.
 Lieutenant General *Wibbenam*, who died
 there.
 Lieutenant Admiral General *Trump*.
 General *Chauvet*.
 General *Delwick*.

Count

Count *d'Arco*.

Count *Sanfra*.

Count *de Riviera*.

Count *de Gryal*.

Count *de Brouay*.

Count *de Tirimont*.

Marquis *de Caste Moncayo*.

Duke *de Sultzbach*.

General *d'Autel*.

Count *de Lippe*.

General *Barfus*.

The Baron *de Pallant*.

The Prince of *Wirtemberg*, and the Prince
his Brother.

The Prince of *Wirtemberg Nieustadt*.

Two Princes of *Anspach*.

The Landgrave of *Homburg*.

Three Princes of *Holsteinbeck*.

The Prince of *Anbalt Zerbest*.

The Duke of *Courland*, and the Prince his
Brother.

The Duke of *Holstein*.

The Prince of *Commercy*.

The Prince *Palatine* of *Birkenfeldt*.

The Count *d'Espence*.

The Count *de Denboff*.

The Count *de Fugger*.

Baron *Spaan*.

The Rhinegrave, and his Brother.

The Count *de Carelson*.

Count General *Palfi*.

The HISTORY of

The Princess of *Nassau*, the Governor of
Friesland's Lady.

The Princess *Radzivil*.

The Princess of *Saxe Eysenach*.

The Countess of *Soissons*.

The English Nobility that came with the King.

THE Duke of *Norfolk*.

The Duke of *Ormond*.

Duke of *Schomberg*.

Count *Méinard Schomberg*, his Brother.

The Earl of *Devonshire*.

The Earl of *Dorset*.

The Earl of *Drumlanrig*.

The Earl of *Effex*.

The Earl of *Nottingham*.

The Earl of *Derby*.

The Earl of *Portland*.

The Earl of *Monmouth*.

The Earl of *Scarborough*.

The Earl of *Selkirk*.

Mr. Comptroller *Wharton*.

The Bishop of *London*.

Monsieur *Auverquerque*.

*The Names of Envoys, Envoys Extra-
ordinary, &c.*

THE Count <i>de Windisgrats</i>	} From the Empe- ror. Count
The Count <i>de Berka</i>	
The Chevalier <i>Camprecht</i>	

- Count *Pialet* }
 President *de la Tour* } From *Savoy*.
- Count *Rebenklau* }
 Monsieur *Lenthe* } From *Denmark*.
- Count *Oxenstern*, from *Sweden*.
 Don *Emanuel de Colonna*, from *Spain*.
 Mons. *Achshausen*, from *Saxony*.
 The Baron of *Boomgarten* } From *Bava-*
 Mons. *Prielmeyer* } *ria*.
- Mons. *Van Dieft* }
 Mons. *Smettau* } From *Brandenburgh*.
- The Baron *de Leyen* }
 Mons. *Campagne* } From *Treves*.
- Mons. *Talberg* }
 Mons. *Meyers* } From *Mentz*.
- General and Baron *Bersau* }
 Mons. *Solemaker* } From *Cologne*.
- Mons. *de Norf*, from *Munster*.
 Mons. *Berendorf*, from *Lunenburgh-Zell*.
 Mons. *Zegel*, from *Lunenburgh*.
 Baron *Gorts* }
 Mons. *Keppelaer* } From *Hesse Cassel*.
- Baron *Arjek*, from *Brunswick-Wolfen-*
futtal.
 Mons. *Klecht*, from *Hanover*.
 Mons. *Hettermann*, from the Elector *Pa-*
latine.
 Mons. *Moreau*, from *Poland*.
 Mons. *Feurkens*, from *Holstein-Gottorp*.
 Counsellor *Mean*, from *Liege*.
 Mons. —, from *Hamburg*.

The HISTORY of

For the States of *Holland*, were Messieurs *Heinsius* and *Dyckvelt*; the Former being Grand Pensionary: And for the King of *Great Britain*, the Earls of *Pembroke* and *Portland*, and Lord *Dursley*, afterwards Earl of *Berkley*, his Majesty's Ambassador to the States.

There had been Conferences held at the *Hague*, in the Chamber of *Treves*, among the Ministers of the confederate Princes, from the 16th of the preceding *March*, in 16⁸⁸₈₉. But the Necessity they were under of pursuing more vigorous Measures, for the common Safety, and the Presence of so August a Monarch, on whose Valour and Conduct they all depended, had now brought together the Princes themselves, and formed a more glorious Constellation than any Age can parallel.

It was at these solemn Assemblies that Mr. PRIOR, through the Favour of his Patron, the Great Earl of *Dorset*, and the * Sollicitation of his Friend Mr. *Shephard*, made his first Appearance in public Business. And how well he discharged himself of the Trust reposed in him, we may learn from his future Employments,

* See his Epistle to *Fleetwood Shephard*, Esq; which begins,

While crouding Folks with strange ill Faces, &c.

which

which were almost continual during the Reign of King WILLIAM, and his glorious Successor.

The following Letter of Mr. PRIOR, which wants the Date of the Year, but appears to be written from the *Hague*, to a Son of Lord *Dursley's*, seems to belong to the Time we are now upon, and is therefore here inserted, with a Translation.

*Carolo de Berkeley, dilecto Domino suo,
Matthæus Prior, S^m. P^m. D^t.*

Litteras tuas, mi Charissime, Sorori A Letter of Mr. Prior's. tuæ dilectissimæ scriptas, accepimus, atque perlegimus, quando nihil secreti iis inesse credibile esset. Domesticæ nostræ res quomodo se habent, brevi accipias. Mater tua hic est; Fraterculum pulcherrimum, et tui simillimum, ex Angliâ sibi transportavit. Soror tua natû maxima, cum Avitâ Nelson, Angliam profecta est, ad recuperandam Sanitatem, quâ malâ profectio in Hollandiâ usa est. Jam vero subirasce tibi debeo, nec injuriâ, quia Epistolas nobis nec Latinè, nec Gallicè scriptas mandare curas. Incumbas studiis, oro, et fac ut videamus Progressus, quos Te octodecim jam menses audientem Præceptores optimos fecisse in utrâque linguâ oportet. Hoc Pater tuus, hoc tuum postulat Officium. Quod ad
me

The HISTORY of

me attinet, eâ solummodo conditione Parentes tuos optimos exorandos conabor, quò nos revives brevi. Hoc quoque sibi scriptum Frater tuus credat. Præceptores tuos, Amicos mihi optimos, meo nomine saluta. Fac Me ames; Te æternum amabo. Vale.

Hagæ Comitum
Pridie Nonas Septembris.

*To the Honourable Mr. Charles Berkeley,
MATTHEW PRIOR wisheth Health and
Peace.*

Dear Sir,

“ WE have receiv’d your Letter to
 “ your Sister, and as there did
 “ not seem to be any Secret in it, I took
 “ the Liberty to read it over. I will in-
 “ form you in a few Words of the pre-
 “ sent State of our Affairs. Your Mo-
 “ ther is here; and your pretty little
 “ Brother, so very much like yourself,
 “ is brought over from *England* to her.
 “ Your eldest Sister is gone to *England*,
 “ with your Aunt *Nelson*, in order to re-
 “ cover her Health; having been very
 “ sickly ever since she has resided in
 “ *Holland*. And now, my dear *Charles*,
 “ I ought to be a little angry with you,
 “ not without Reason, that in all this
 “ Time you have not sent us one Letter
 “ either

“ either in *Latin* or *French*. I beg you
“ would apply yourself to your Studies,
“ and let us receive some Testimony of
“ that Progress, which it is requisite you
“ should have made in both Tongues,
“ after having been eight Months under
“ the best Preceptors. This is what your
“ Father expects, and your own Duty
“ exacts of you. As for my Part, I
“ assure you, it is on this Condition only
“ that I will endeavour to prevail on your
“ kind Parents, to let you come over soon
“ and see us. I would have your Bro-
“ ther believe too, that this is written to
“ him as well as yourself. Pray give my
“ humble Service to your Tutors, my
“ very good Friends: And continue to
“ love me, as I eternally shall you”.

Hague, Sept. 4.

The Grand Congress opened in *January* 1689, when King WILLIAM sat forth the Occasion of it, in a Speech to the following Purport.

He represented, “ That the imminent
“ Dangers in which they found them-
“ selves, sufficiently discovered the Errors
“ that had been committed; so that he had
“ no need to use many Arguments, to
“ shew them the Necessity of taking juster
“ and better Measures: That in the Cir-
“ cumstances they were in, it was not a
“ Time

*King Wil-
liam's
Speech at
the Open-
ing of the
Congress.*

“ Time to deliberate, but to act : That
“ the Enemy was Master of all the
“ chief Fortresses, which were the Bar-
“ riers of the common Liberty ; and that
“ he would soon possess himself of all
“ the rest, if a Spirit of Division, Slowness,
“ and particular Interest continued a-
“ mongst them : That every one ought
“ to remain persuaded, that their re-
“ spective particular Interests were com-
“ prised in the general One : That the
“ Enemy’s Forces were very strong,
“ and would carry Things like a Tor-
“ rent before them : That it was in vain
“ to oppose with fruitless Clamours and
“ Complaints, or unprofitable Protesta-
“ tions against Injustice : That it was
“ neither the Resolution of a barren Diet,
“ nor the Hopes of some Men of For-
“ tune, arising from frivolous Founda-
“ tions ; but Soldiers, strong Armies, and
“ prompt and severe Union between all
“ the Forces of the Allies, that must do
“ the Work ; and that these must be
“ brought to oppose the Enemy without
“ Delay, if they would put a Stop to
“ his Conquests, and snatch out of his
“ Hands the Liberties of *Europe*, which
“ he held already under a heavy Yoke :
“ Concluding, that as for himself, he
“ would neither spare his Credit, Forces,
“ nor Person, to concur with them in
“ so

“ so just and necessary a Design ; and
 “ that he would come in the Spring at
 “ the Head of his Troops, faithfully to
 “ make good his royal Word, which he
 “ had solemnly engaged to them”.

This pathetic, as well as severe Speech, ^{Its Ef-}
 from a Prince, to whom all the Members ^{fect.}
 that composed that illustrious Body paid
 a respectful Deference, and in whole Judg-
 ment and Experience they placed an en-
 tire Confidence, could not but produce
 the desired Effect in the End ; though for
 a while, particular Interests continued to
 reign in the Breasts of many, and ob-
 structed the salutary Resolutions the King
 had so strenuously recommended to them.
 This occasioned their Sitting till the Middle
 of *March*, in which Time they came to
 these weighty Conclusions: *viz.* 1. Not to
 make Peace with LEWIS XIV, till all their
 Grievances were redress'd ; and 2, to em-
 ploy * 222,000 Men against *France*. But it
 appeared afterwards, that this Number
 would not do, and that the *German* Princes
 were

* According to the Plan then agreed on, the Em-
 peror was to furnish 20,000 Men ; the King of *Spain*,
 in *Flanders*, 20,000 ; the King of *England*, 20,000 ;
 the States General, 35,000 ; the Duke of *Savoy*, in-
 cluding the Troops from *Milan*, 20,000 ; the Elector
 of *Bavaria*, 18,000 ; the Elector of *Saxony*, 12,000 ;
 the Landgrave of *Hesse*, 8,000 ; the Circles of *Sualbia*
 and *Franconia*, 10,000 ; the Duke of *Wurtemberg*, 6,000 ;
 the Elector of *Brandenburg*, 2,000 ; the Prince of *Liege*,
 6,000 ; the Bishop of *Alunster*, 7,000 ; the Elector *Pa-*
latine, 4,000 ; the Prince of *Lunenbug*, 16,000.

were always both backward and deficient in furnishing their Quotas.

Though the other Allies were slack in sending in their Contingents, the King of *Great Britain*, who was vigorous and hearty in the Cause he had espoused, was as careful as possible that no Neglect should ever be charged on him. The Queen, who reign'd in his Absence, borrowed this Year large Sums of the City of *London*, which they chearfully sent in upon her Application. Having by this Means put the Fleet into a Readiness to sail, the Lord *Dursley*, their Majesty's Envoy in *Holland*, had early Orders to inform the States of it, and at the same Time to press them to hasten their own Fleet, that it might be ready to join the *English*.

The Allies
unsuccessful in
1692,
and 1693,

Neither this Campaign, however, nor any of the succeeding ones, were so advantageous to the Allies, as to make them desire a Continuation of the War. In the two following Years they lost the Battles of *Steenkirk* and *Landen*, in both which the Confederates were commanded by his *Britannick* Majesty, and the *French* by the victorious *Luxembourg*. The greatest Success King WILLIAM had to boast of, during the whole War, was the Taking of *Namur* in 1695. That Place, which was very strong by Nature, had in it a Garrison of 15,000 Men, well provided with

with all Neccessaries for many Months, had Store of Ammunition, 100 Pieces of Cannon, 12 Mortars, and 10,000 spare Muskets. This made the King's Enterprize thereon be esteemed an Act of the greatest Temerity, and as such it was severely censured by his Enemies. But notwithstanding all the Difficulties attending it, this great Work, which was thought too much for a whole Campaign, was entirely finished in the Space of a § Month, to the immortal Honour of the *English* Monarch, and the utter Confusion of the *French* Party.

§ Between
July 3,
and Au-
gust 4.

Mr. *PRIOR*'s Muse, which had already been * more than once engaged in the Service of his Master, had now a fair Opportunity given her of displaying her exquisite Humour, in the most agreeable Manner. The *French* King had taken *Namur* in the Campaign of 92, in Sight of the Army of the Allies, who were unable to raise the Siege. This was extolled by the Flatterers of that Prince, as a most inimitable Action; and the celebrated *Boileau*, who always mix'd the Praises of his Master with some Strokes of Satire on his contemporary Writers, had composed an Ode on this Occasion in Imitation of *Pindar*, wherein he pretended to assert the

Mr. *Prior*'s
Ballad on
Namur.

* In his Hymn to the Sun on *New-Year's-Day*, 1694, and his Ode to the King after the Queen's Death, 1695.

The HISTORY of

Character of that Antient against the Reflections of *Perrault*, at the same Time that he exalted his Hero above all the Heroes of *Greece*. Mr. PRIOR took this Occasion of turning the *Frenchman's* darling Ridicule both on himself and his Master, by burlesquing his boasted Ode in an *English* Ballad, and printing it together with the *French*: In a Word, he convinced all polite Readers, who are generally of no Party in Matters of Wit, that the *English* HORACE was as much a more agreeable Writer than the *French* PINDAR, as he had made *Little Will*, the *Scourge of France*, a more amiable Hero than the divine *Louis le Grand* *.

His Ver-
ses on the
Conspi-
racy.

The next Year, 1696, upon his Majesty's Arrival in *Holland*, after the Discovery of the Conspiracy against him, Mr. PRIOR presented him with a beautiful Copy of Verses address'd to the Guardian Angels of Mankind; wherein, by an Art peculiar to himself, he pays the highest Compliments without the Appearance of Flattery.

* The posthumous Volume of Poetry, published with this, has an Epigram on the same Subject, p. 17.

The Apostrophe in this Poem to the *French King*, who was by many supposed to be privy to the intended Assassination, contains a Sentiment that is truly *British*.

O LEWIS, *from this great Example know*
To be at once a Hero, and a Foe.

By sounding Trumpets, bear, and rattling
Drums,

When WILLIAM to the open Vengeance
comes;

And see the Soldier plead the Monarch's
Right,

Heading his Troops, and Foremost in the
Fight.

Hence then close Ambush and perfidi-
ous War,

Down to your native Seats of Night
prepare, &c.

As both Parties, by this Time, were quite weary of the War; the latter End of the Year 1696, and the Beginning of 1697, were entirely taken up in Negotiations of Peace. The confederate Army in *Flanders*, hearing of the Defeat of the Plot against his Majesty, took an Opportunity before the Opening of the Campaign in 96, to express their Resentment against the *French*, who were to have invaded *England* if the Assassination had succeed-

Negotia-
tions of
Peace.

ed. They burned their Magazines at *Givet*, and thereby reduced them to the greatest Extremity. Besides, the *French* had entirely exhausted their Country, by keeping such numerous Armies on foot; so that Men, as well as Provisions, began to fail them. The *English* also were in some Streights, occasioned chiefly by the Re-coinage of the Money; and it was with the utmost Difficulty that their Generals could provide Subsistence for their Troops. In short, tho' the Campaign was this Year opened, it was all spent in Observation only, neither Side finding it convenient to come to Action.

1696.

The *French*, some Time before the King's Arrival at the Beginning of the Year, had sent Monsieur *Caillieres* to the *Hague*, offering to acknowledge his Majesty's Title, and to deliver up some considerable Places as a Barrier against *France*. The *Dutch* began to listen to the Proposals, but would do nothing without the King of *Great Britain*, who was also their Stadtholder. Monsieur *Caillieres*, however, seemed to concede all that they could ask: So that Matters were soon in a very promising Way, on the Part of the *Dutch*. And the *English*, groaning under heavy Taxes, having suffered much from the Enemy's Privateers, and seeing no Prospect of gaining by the War, were rather inclined than

than averſe to a Pacification. It was at length agreed therefore, on all Hands, through the Mediation of CHARLES XI, King of *Sweden*, and the prudent Management of his Ambaſſador in *Holland*, Baron *Van Lillienroot*, that Plenipotentiaries ſhould be named, for carrying on this ſalutary Work.

The better to ſucceed in this Negotiation, the Court of *France* had been privately treating with the Duke of *Savoy*, one of the moſt powerful of the Allies, during the whole preceding Winter. Marſhal *Catinat*, who commanded the *French* Army on that Side, and was no leſs an able Politician than a gallant General, had found Means to carry on the Conferences with the utmoſt Secrecy; and they were render'd effectual by the Interpoſition of the Pope's Nuncio, and the *Venetian* Ambaſſador. The Articles were ſigned at *Loretto*, whither the Duke of *Savoy*, who had, in fact, more of the Statesman in him than of the Bigot, went under Pretence of a religious Vow, but in reality to elude the Vigilance of the Allies, whoſe Miniſters had a very watchful Eye over his Royal Highneſs.

The Notification of this Treaty, at the latter End of the Summer, obliged the Allies to withdraw their Forces out of the Dominions of *Savoy*, in order to provide

for the Security of the *Milanese*. The Duke of *Savoy* followed them closely, at the Head of the *French* Troops and his own, by Virtue of a Commission of Generalissimo from the most Christian King; and four Days after laid Siege to *Valencia*. So that his Royal Highness, in one Campaign, was seen at the Head of two contending Armies, and even for some Days commanded them both, while the Army of the Allies was yet in his Territories. An Instance this, that is hardly to be parallell'd in History.

Congress
at *Ryswick*
agreed on.

In fine, all Things concurring to recommend a general Pacification, the Terms of it were now brought on the Carpet. Here the first Difficulty that arose, was about the Place for holding the Congress. *Mentz* or *Frankfort* was proposed by the Emperor: But the *Dutch*, with most of their Allies, were for some Place in *Holland*. After several Debates on this Head, about the Middle of *January*, Monsieur *Caillieres* moved, by his Master's Orders, that the Plenipotentiaries of the Allies should reside at the *Hague*, and those of *France* at *Delft*; and that the Conferences should be held at *Ryswick*, a Palace belonging to King *WILLIAM*, which stood at an equal Distance between both Places. This Motion was approved of by the Confederates, and it was settled accordingly.

After

After which the Preliminaries were concluded, and signed the 10th of *February*, at the *Swedish* Minister's, between *Monf. Caillieres* and *M. Dyckvelt*. Some of the principal Articles were as follows:

1. That the Treaties of *Westphalia* and *Nimeguen*, should be the Basis of this at *Ryswick*.

2. That *Stratsburg* should be restored to the Empire, in the same Condition the *French* took it.

3. That *Luxemburg* should be restored to the *Spaniards*, in its present Condition.

4. That *Mons* and *Charleroy* should be surrendered as they are.

5. That all Places taken by the *French* in *Catalonia*, since the Peace of *Nimeguen*, should be restored in the same Manner.

6. That *Dinant*, both City and Castle, should be given up to the Bishop of *Liege*, as they were taken.

7. That all Re-unions made by the *French*, since the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, should be void.

8. That *Lorraine* should be restored, according to the Condition of that Treaty.

9. That the Principality of *Orange* should be given up to its Sovereign.

It was farther agreed, that provided the Peace were concluded, the most Christian

The HISTORY of

King should, at the Time it was signed, own and acknowledge the Prince of *Orange* as King of *Great Britain*, without any Difficulty, Limitation, Condition, or Reserve.

But after the Preliminaries were settled, the Death of the King of *Sweden*, the Mediator, and the Succession of *Charles XII*, a Minor, to his Throne, occasioned some Delay in the Negotiations. This Obstruction, however, was soon removed, by the Regency of that Kingdom, who sent a new Commission to their Ambassador, *M. de Lillienroot*, who by his prudent Regulations much forwarded the Conferences. For he enjoyn'd, that to carry on the Treaty with the greater Ease, all Precedency should be laid aside, and the Titles of Princes should be of no Consequence.

The Ceremonial being settled, the Baron appointed the 9th Day of *May* for beginning the Conferences. *Ryfwick-House*, the Place of Meeting, was found so convenient on this Occasion, that it seem'd as if built on Purpose for the Seat of a Treaty. It was divided into three grand Apartments, which, though all separate, had yet a Communication with one another. The Ambassadors of the Allies had one Side allotted them, and those of *France* the other; the Mediator's Office being in the Middle between both. They had

had all different Avenues, so as not to obstruct one another in passing backwards and forwards.

The Names of their Excellencies the Ambassadors, Plenipotentiaries, publick Ministers, Envoys, &c. that assembled at the Congress of the general Peace, at the Palace of Ryfwick, called Newburg-House,

England.

THOMAS Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal of England, Privy-Councillor to his *Britannick* Majesty, one of the Lords Justices of the Kingdom of Ireland, Principal Extraordinary Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of the Treaties of Peace.

Edward Viscount Villiers of Dartford, Knight Marshal of England, Envoy Extraordinary from his *Britannick* Majesty to the States-General, and one of the Lords Justices for the Kingdom of Ireland, Extraordinary Ambassador at the Treaties of Peace.

Robert Lord Lexington, one of the Gentlemen of his Majesty's Bed-chamber, and his Extraordinary Envoy to his Imperial Majesty, Ambassador Plenipotentiary at the Treaties of Peace.

Sir

The HISTORY of

Sir *Joseph Williamson*, Knight, Privy-Councillor to his Majesty, Keeper of the Records, and Member of Parliament, Extraordinary Ambassador and Plenipotentiary at the Treaties of Peace.

Mr. MATTHEW PRIOR, Gentleman of the King's Bed-chamber, and nominated principal Secretary of *Ireland*, Secretary to the Embassy for the Peace.

Bavaria.

The Baron *de Prielmeyer*. Monf. *Reichard* his Secretary.

Brandenburgh.

Monf. *de Smettau*, Monf. *de Denkelman*, and Monf. *Charles Adolph* Secretary.

Brunswick-Lunenbourg-Hanover.

Baron *Bothmar*, and M. *Stambke* Secretary;
Cologn.

Baron *de Mean.*

Denmark.

Christian Sigifred de Plessen, Lord of *Parin* and *Houkendorf*; *Christian de Lent*, Lord of *Sarlbaussen*; Mess. *Pauwese* and *Vernekren* Secretaries.

Emperor.

The Count *de Kaunitz*, the Count *de Straatman* and *Bearbach*, and Baron *de Seilern*; M. *Hayeck* Secretary.

France.

Monf. *de Harlay*, Lord *de Boneuil*; Monf. *de Verjus*, Count *de Cercy*; Monf. *de Caillieres*, Lord of *Caillieres*.

Mentz.

Mentz.

The Baron *de Schonborn.*

Palatinate.

The Count *de Veehlen.*

Spain.

Don Francisco Bernardo de Quiros, the
Count *de Tirimont*, and *Monf. Brulé*
Secretary.

Sweden.

Charles Bonde, Count *de Biærnæce*; *Nicholas*
Baron *de Lillienroot*; *Charles* Baron *de*
Frisendorf Secretary.

Saxony.

Baron *de Boscu*, and *Monf. Kerchner* Se-
cretary.

The States-General.

James Borel, Lord of *Duynbeeck*; Pen-
sionary *Heinsius*; *Everhard de Weede*,
Lord of *Dyckvelt*; *Monf. William de*
Haaren; *Monf. Bruyninx* Secretary.

For the Empire.

Triers.

Baron *Leyen*, Lord of *Saffig.*

Ausbourg.

John Christopher de Dierkeim, Councillor,
Austria.

Francis Rodolph, Baron of *Helden.*

Baden-Baden.

Charles Ferdinand, Baron *Phittersdorf.*

Bremen

*The HISTORY of**Bremen and Deux-Ponts.*

Monf. *Snoilsky*, Councillor to the King of
Sweden.

Brunswick-Lunenburg.

Monf. *Huneken* Resident.

Brunswick and Wolfenbittel.

Baron *Frederic de Steinbourg.*

*Brunswick, Lunenbourg, Zell, and Wol-
fenbittel.*

Monf. *Seigel* Resident.

Cologn.

Monf. *Harman Joseph Bullenger.*

Denmark, for Holstein.

Monf. *Detlef Nicholas de Laweneton.*

Egmont.

Monf. *Michael de Ghillet*, Lord of *Teppen.*

Emperor.

The Count *de Aversberg*, Chamberlain.

Franconia.

Baron *Wolfgang Philip de Schrottenberg.*

Francfort.

Monf. *John James Muller*, and Dr. *John
Melchior Lucius.*

Hambourg.

Monf. *de Bostel*, Councillor and Syndic.

Hanau.

Monf. *F. C. de Ecclesheim.*

Hesse-Cassel.

The Baron *de Goretz.*

Hildesheim.

Monf. *Charles Paul de Zimmermans.*

Leige.

Monf. *Norf*, Refident at the *Hague*.

Lorrain.

Baron *Claudius Francis* Canon, and Baron
Josepb le Begue.

Lubeck.

Monf. *George Randau*, Provost and Syndic.

Mentz.

Monf. *Ignatius Anthony Ottin*, and Monf.
George William Moll.

Munster.

The Baron *de Plettenbourg de Lenhausen*.

Nemours, Ducheſs of,

Monf. *Bourret*, Councillor and Treasurer.

Orleans, Duke of,

Monf. the Abbot *Thejeu*.

Palatine Neubourg.

Monf. *John Henry Hettermann*.

Portugal.

Monf. *Pacieco*, Envoy to the States.

Rhine, Upper.

Monf. *de Savigny*.

Salm.

Monf. *d'Ufling*.

Savoy.

Monf. *Philibert de la Tour*, Baron of
Bourdeaux.

Monf. *Francis de Prichignono*, Count de
Castellengo.

Saxe-Colbourg.

Monf. the Baron *de Hagen*.

The HISTORY of

Saxe-Gotha.

Monf. *d'Aveman.*

Strasbourg, Bishop of,

Monf. *Herman de Halveren.*

Suabia.

Monf. *Frederick de Durheimb*, and Monf. *de Kulpis.*

Suabia, Prelates and Deputies of,

Monf. *Anthony Eusebius*, Baron of *Walden.*

Tremouille, Prince of,

Monf. *John Gabriel de Sanginiere*, Lord of *Charaufac.*

Treves,

Monf. *John Henry Keyservelt.*

Teutonic Order.

Monf. *Charles de Loe*, Baron of *Wessen*, and Monf. *Victor de Beugbern.*

Wetteravia, Counts of,

Monf. *Charles Otton*, Count of *Solms.*

Wirtemberg.

Monf. *Anthony Gunther de Hessen.*

Wirtzburg.

Monf. *John-Conrad-Philip Ignatius*, Baron of *Tatton.*

Order of
the first
Meeting.

On the appointed Day, the Baron of *Lilienroot*, Ambassador of *Sweden*, and Mediator, entered the Palace at half an Hour after three o'Clock, passing over the middle Bridge, and through the Great Gate of the Palace. He was in a Coach with six Horses, accompanied by two Gentlemen, who,

who, as well as himself, were in Mourning for the late King.

The Baron of *Preilmeyer*, Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of the Elector of *Bavaria*, arrived about four o'Clock in a Coach with six Horses, having his Son and two Gentlemen with him. Soon after came Messieurs *Boreel*, *Dyckvelt*, and *Van Haaren*, Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries of the States-General. They, and their Gentlemen, were all in a Coach with six Horses. The Emperor's Ambassador arrived next with five Coaches, each drawn by six Horses; and three others, with two Horses each. In the two first Coaches were M. *Hayeck*, Secretary of the Embassy, with the other Secretaries and Gentlemen of their Household. In the third Coach, which was Count *Kaunitz's*, he rid himself, with Count *Straatman* and the Baron of *Seilern* his Associates. The other Coaches were filled with Count *Kaunitz's* two Sons, and other *German* Noblemen and Gentlemen, all splendidly attended. The King of *Spain's* Ambassadors came up a little after, in two Coaches with six Horses. In the first was *Don Bernard de Quiros*, and the Count *de Tirimont*, attended by six Horsemen; and in the second were their Gentlemen. These were followed by the Ambassadors of *England*, having two Coaches with six Horses

Horses each. The Lords *Pembroke* and *Villiers* rode in the first, and Mr. PRIOR, Secretary of the Embassy, in the second, with the other Secretaries and Gentlemen.

After these followed the Ambassadors of the several Princes of the Empire, who all arrived in less than a Quarter of an Hour's Time, between four o'Clock and a Quarter after it. The Ambassadors of *France* came at three Quarters past four, with three Coaches drawn by six Horses each. *Monf. de Harlay*, the Count *de Crecy*, and *M. de Caillieres*, with *M. Harley*, Councillor of State, were in the first; a Gentleman on Horseback riding before them. The two other Coaches were filled with Gentlemen. These Ambassadors entered by the third Bridge, which led to the left End of the Palace; as those of the Allies had entered by that on the Right, according to the establish'd Form.

All these Ambassadors being introduced by *M. Rosenboom*, the States-General's Agent, they continued the Assembly till after Seven; during which Time they delivered their Commissions to the Mediator, who was in the middle Hall. They all retired about half an Hour after Seven, the Emperor's Ambassadors first, and those of *France* last; tho' it was before agreed, that this should be looked upon as immaterial,

terial, and not to be drawn into any Consequence.

The second Meeting was on the 11th of May, at Ten in the Morning, when they sat till Two in the Afternoon, and agreed that their Conferences, for the Future, should be held twice a Week; on *Wednesdays*, at Nine in the Morning, and on *Saturdays*, at Four in the Afternoon; which was exactly observed during the whole Congress.

Resolution of the second Meeting.

It would be foreign to our present Purpose, to give a Journal of all the Transactions of this Assembly, or to insert all the particular Articles of Peace that were made between the several Powers concerned on the one Side, and the *French* King on the other. They make a Volume of themselves, which it is not difficult to procure. I will only take the Heads of those which regard *England*, and observe in general, that the Imperialists and *Spaniards* discovered a Backwardness to come into the Terms stipulated for them; but were induced however to sign the Peace, for fear of being abandoned by the *English* and *Dutch*, who suffered the *French*, during the Treaty, to take *Aeth* in *Flanders*, and *Barcelona* in *Spain*.

The Articles between *Great Britain* and *France* were fourteen in Number;

Articles that regard *England*.

the most material of which were, “ That
 “ all Offences, Injuries, and Damages,
 “ should be mutually forgiven: That the
 “ King of *France*, on his Royal Word
 “ and Faith, would not countenance or
 “ support any Conspiracies against the
 “ King of *Great Britain*: That there
 “ should be free Commerce and Naviga-
 “ tion between the Subjects of both Mo-
 “ narchs: That all Countries, Islands,
 “ Forts, and Colonies, which had been
 “ taken on either Side during the War,
 “ should be restored: That, to prevent
 “ future Contention, all Ships, Merchan-
 “ dizes, and other moveable Goods, which
 “ may be taken on either Side, in such
 “ Latitudes, and in so many Days after
 “ the Publication of the Peace as are
 “ severally specified, should remain to
 “ the Captors: That in case of a future
 “ Rupture, six Months should be allowed
 “ by either Prince, for the Subjects of
 “ the other to withdraw their Effects:
 “ That the Principality of *Orange*, and
 “ all other Lands belonging to the King
 “ of *Great Britain* as Prince of *Orange*,
 “ should be restored him with the Interest
 “ due.”

A remark-
 able Parti-
 cular.

This Treaty was signed by the Pleni-
 potentaries on the 20th of *February*, N. S.
 a little before Midnight, and ratified by
 King WILLIAM on the 25th of the same
 Month,

Month, and by the King of *France* on the 3d of *October*. It appears however, that before this Ratification on the Part of his most Christian Majesty, a Difficulty was started by the *French* Ambassadors, on the King of *Great Britain's* using the Words *Rex Franciæ*; which occasioned a Warrant from his Majesty to his Plenipotentiaries, for omitting the afore-said Title, provided they could find that it had been omitted in any former Treaty. But as the Date of the Warrant is posterior to that of the *French* King's Ratification, it seems as if the Omission was not insisted on at the Court of *France*, and that no Concession was made in Consequence of this Warrant. However, as the Original is in our Hands, and was found among Mr. PRIOR's Papers, we shall insert it here as a valuable Relick, which may deserve a Mention in future Histories.

William R.

Instructions for our Right Trusty and Right Well-beloved Cousin and Councillor, Thomas Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, Keeper of our Privy Seal: Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Cousin Ed-

The HISTORY of

ward *Viscount Villiers, our Envoy Extraordinary to the States General, and Plenipotentiary at the Congress at the Hague: Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Councillor Robert Lord Lexington, our Envoy Extraordinary to the Emperor of Germany; and our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Councillor Sir Joseph Williamson, Knight; Our Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiaries for the Treaty of a general Peace, between us jointly with our Allies, and the most Christian King. Given at our Court at Dieren this 15th Day of October 1697, in the ninth Year of our Reign.*

WHEREAS we are given to understand by a Letter from MATTHEW PRIOR, Esq; of the 14th Instant, written by your Order, that the *French Ambassadors* had excepted against the Style of *Rex Franciæ*, in the Instrument of Ratification of the late Treaty of Peace under the Great Seal of *England*, which you offered to exchange with them, declaring withal that they would be satisfied with the said Ratification, as it is now worded, provided you declared that it should be changed if it be found otherwise in the Ratification of the Treaty of *Breda*, and other Treaties made since:
And

And we having already directed you to declare that former Precedents should govern in that Particular: We are well pleased, that if the Ambassadors of *France* be not already come to an Agreement with you concerning the Style of the said Ratification, you do declare unto them in our Name, that in Case they do accept of the Ratification, the said Instrument shall be changed, if the Style be found otherwise in the Ratification of the Treaty of *Breda*, and of other Treaties made since; provided the said Treaties be understood to be such as have been made and ratified under the Great Seal of *England* before the Abdication of the late King *James*, or our taking Possession of the Government of that Kingdom. And for so doing, this shall be your Warrant.

W. R.

There are two remarkable Omissions in this Treaty of *Ryswick*, that of the Interest of King *JAMES* on the Part of the King of *France*, and that of the Protestant Interest on the Part of King *WILLIAM. LEWIS* had solemnly promised, in an open Declaration to all *Europe*, that he would never lay down his Arms till he had restored King *JAMES* to his Throne: But the great Losses he had sustained

Omissions
in the
Treaty of
Ryswick.

tained during a long and expensive War, obliged him to alter his Resolution in so unexpected a Manner, as to occasion the Publication of a Manifesto by the abdicated Prince, wherein he complained of the Injustice done him. WILLIAM, on the other Hand, had declared himself the Protector of the *French* Refugees; yet never insisted on the Restoration of their Estates, and the free Use of their Religion in their own Country.

Lord Portland's Embassy to France, and his Character.

Soon after the Conclusion of the Peace, King WILLIAM nominated the Earl of *Portland* to be his Ambassador Extraordinary to the Court of *France*. Mr. PRIOR was appointed Secretary to this Embassy, which was short, and rather a Matter of Ceremony than Business. This Nobleman, who was a Native of *Holland*, and had been Page to the King when Prince of *Orange*, by his assiduous Fidelity had raised himself into the highest Favour. His Majesty made him a Peer of *England*, gave him the Garter, and threw away such Grants of Lands upon him, as obliged the Parliament to interpose, and put a Stop to them. He gave him also the entire Government of *Scotland*, made him a Lieutenant-General, first Lord of the Bedchamber, and Privy-purse. But as the Situation of Favourites is always precarious, he saw himself supplanted by the

the Earl of *Albemarle*, another *Dutchman*, who had also been a Page. The growing Favour of this Rival had for some Time alarmed him, and was the Reason that he went on this Embassy with Reluctance: And indeed his Jealousy was not ill-founded; for *Albemarle* so prevailed in his Absence, that he obliged him, by several little Affronts, to lay down all his Employments. After this he was never more in Favour, though the King always shewed an Esteem for him.

Edward Lord Villiers, late Envoy Extraordinary to the States-General, and one of the Plenipotentiaries at the Treaty of *Ryswick*, having been created Earl of *Jersey* for his many and faithful Services, was now appointed Ambassador to the *French Court*, in about two Months after the Earl of *Portland* had made his public Entry. Mr. PRIOR continued in his Office of Secretary under this Nobleman, with whom he afterwards joined in impeaching the Partition Treaty, tho' both the one and the other was deeply concerned in the Management of that Affair. But I shall consider their Conduct, in this Particular, more fully in another Place. Thus much is certain, that Mr. PRIOR was always strongly attach'd to my Lord *Jersey*, of whose Integrity and Ability he had a very high Opinion. He

Lord *Jersey's* Embassy to *France*, and his Character.

The HISTORY of

has paid him a * Compliment upon his fine Taste, which sufficiently confutes the Calumny of a † certain Author, “That the Earl of *Jersey* went through all the great Offices of the Kingdom, with a very ordinary Understanding; was employed by one of the greatest Kings that ever was, in Affairs of the greatest Consequence, and yet was a Man of a weak Capacity”. Is it probable that an Author of Mr. PRIOR’s nice Discernment, would have so far hazarded his own Reputation, as to make that Judgment the Standard of what was exquisitely fine, which had nothing in it more than common? If Mr. PRIOR was an *intire Creature* of my Lord *Jersey*’s, as the same Author invidiously affirms, it was owing to the Deference he paid to his good Sense, and not merely to support him by his Advice, without being engaged by his Merit. But this by the Way only.

Lord *Manchester*’s
Embassy
to *Venice*,
and his
Character.

About the same Time that Lord *Portland* was sent to *Paris*, the Earl of *Manchester* was dispatch’d to *Venice*. That Republick was the last of the considerable Powers in *Europe*, not engaged in the War against us, which would not acknowledge King WILLIAM’s Title. But after Admiral *Ruffel* had appeared with a Fleet in

* In the Prologue of *Paulo Purganti*.

† Mr. Macky, in his Memoirs, &c.

the *Mediterranean*, and the Conclusion of a general Peace seemed unavoidably at hand, they deputed a solemn Embassy to *London*, to compliment his Majesty. It was in Return of this Embassy that the Earl of *Manchester* was sent; a Nobleman, who had always been zealous in the Cause of Liberty, and, at his own Expende, had accompany'd the King into *Ireland* as a Volunteer, with a very handsome Retinue; was at the Battle of the *Boyne*, and the Siege of *Limerick*; for which generous Service, after the Reduction of that Kingdom, he was made Captain of the Band of Yeomen. He resided at *Venice* during the successive Embassies of the Earls of *Portland* and *Jersey* at *France*,^{To France.} the Court of *France*, and then succeeded the latter at that Court, where he continued * much longer than either of his Predecessors, and at a Time that will give us frequent Occasion to mention him, in the subsequent Sheets.

Mr. PRIOR remained at *Paris* till after Lord *Manchester*'s Audiences were over, and then came to *England*, to serve again under the Earl of *Jersey*, who was advanced to be one of the principal Secretaries of State, upon the Resignation of the Duke of *Shrewsbury*. His Corres-

Mr. Prior
in Eng-
land.

* From May 1699, to September 1701.

pondence during this long Residence in *France*, was not found among his Papers, which probably was owing to the Prosecutions that soon after followed, against those who had projected the Treaties of Partition. But we have one remarkable Story of him at this Time, which must not be here omitted, as it contains an Instance of his delicate Satire, and gallant Loyalty to his Master.

His Answer to a French Courtier.

One of the Officers of the *French* King's Household shewing him the Royal Apartments and Curiosities at *Verfailles*, especially the Paintings of *Le Brun*, wherein the Victories of LEWIS XIV was beautifully described, ask'd him, "Whether King WILLIAM's Actions were also to be seen in his Palace". "No Sir, answered Mr. PRIOR; the Monuments of my Master's Actions are to be seen every where but in his own House". It was hardly possible, in so few Words, to pay a finer Compliment to King WILLIAM, and at the same Time, to pass a juster and more poignant Censure upon the Vanity of the Grand Monarch, of whose Actions there were more Monuments in his own Palaces, and in the Works of *Boileau*, than in the whole World besides.

Though we have not any Remains of Mr. PRIOR's preliminary Transactions to the

the first Partition-Treaty, yet as it is probable from the Office he was in, that some of the Management of it must have lain upon him, I shall here give a short Account of that Affair, and of the Change that immediately followed it, which disconcerted all the Measures then taken, and gave rise to a second Treaty under the same Name. Mr. PRIOR was concerned in this also, tho' perhaps against his Judgment even at that Time; as he, with many others, might foretel the fatal Consequences that ensued. But doubtless King WILLIAM, who drove on these Treaties seemingly against the Opinion of his ablest Ministers, was convinced in his own Mind, that they were the only Means then left of preserving the Balance of Power.

* *Europe* had continued, for some Time after the Peace of *Ryswick*, in a State of Tranquillity: But the Health of the King of *Spain* declining very fast, it was justly apprehended, that he would die without Issue. For this Reason the *French* King kept up a very considerable Army, and made all the necessary Preparations for sending out great Numbers of Men of War and Gallies, in order to seize upon *Spain* as soon as the present Monarch was

Occasion
of the first
Partition
Treaty.

* *Cole's Memoirs*, p. 29, &c.

dead.

dead. His *Britannick* Majesty, who beheld this, and knew the Intrigues and Pretences of *France*, knew also that his own Subjects would be averse to a new War, which could not be carried on without many additional Taxes, after having found the last so very burthensome. He saw himself, and all *Europe* in Danger, without any faithful Alliance but that of the *Dutch*. The Emperor had much offended him; because he had obstructed, to the utmost of his Power, the Accommodation at *Ryswick*; and now, in a Manner openly, laid Claim to the whole Monarchy of *Spain*, which he hoped to unite with his other Dominions. All our Troops, in those very dark and dangerous Times, were reduced to 7000 Men: And many Members had declared in Parliament, that they thought even this too great a Number. Thus was the *French* King left in a Condition to execute almost any Thing: It was in his Power to take Possession of the whole *Spanish* Monarchy, in the various Parts of the World, before any Prince but the Emperor, whom he had little Reason to fear, could oppose him. The Party of the late King, upon this Appearance of an approaching Rupture, conceived new Hopes. The States-General were averse to another War; yet apprehended it unavoidable, if the King
of

of *Spain* should die without Children, unless it was timely prevented by a Treaty of Settlement. The House of *Bourbon*, they knew, was an over-grown Power already, and they saw Danger in taking Part with the Emperor against it; because the Fund for carrying on a War, of which the Emperor was to have the Advantage, could be raised only in *England* and *Holland*. Besides, if the Emperor should succeed in his Aims, they might be even in greater Danger from him than from *France* itself, without a Barrier against him in the *Netherlands*. During this State of Confusion, in which all *Europe* seemed to be involved, King WILLIAM wrote the following Letter to the Lord Chancellor *Somers*, with his own Hand.

His Majesty's Letter to Lord SOMERS.

Loo, Aug. 15, 1698.

I Imparted to you before I left *England*, that in *F.* * there was expressed to my Lord *P.* † some Insinuation to come to an Agreement with us, concerning the Succession of the King of § *Sp.* Since which *C. Tall.* || has mentioned it to me,

King William's Letter.

* *France.* † *Portland.* § *Spain.* || *Count Tallard.*
and

and has made Propositions, the Particulars of which my Lord *P.* will write to *Vernon*, to whom I have given Orders not to communicate them to any other besides yourself, and to leave to your Judgment to whom else you should think proper to impart them; to the End, that I might know your Opinion upon so important an Affair, and which requires the greatest Secrecy. If it be fit this Negotiation should be carried on, there is no Time to be lost; and you must send me the full Powers, under the Great Seal, with the Names in blank, to treat with *C. Tall.* I believe this may be done secretly, that none but you and *Vernon*, and those to whom you shall have communicated it, may have Knowledge of it: So that the Clerks who are to write the Warrant, and the Full Powers, may not know what it is. According to all Intelligence, the King of *Sp.* cannot out-live the Month of *October*, and the least Accident may carry him off every Day. I received your Letter of the 9th. Since my Lord *Wharton* cannot at this Time leave *England*, I must think of some other to send Ambassador into *Sp.* If you can think of any one proper, let me know it, and be always assured of my Friendship.

W. R.

His

His Lordship's ANSWER.

Tunbridge-Wells, Aug. 28, 1698.

HAVING your Majesty's Permission to try if the Waters would contribute to the Re-establishment of my Health, I was just got to this Place when I had the Honour of your Commands. I thought the best Way of executing them would be to communicate to my Lord Orf. * Mr. Mont. † and the D. of Shrew. § (who before I left *London* had agreed upon a Meeting about that Time) the Subject of my Lord P's Letters; at the same Time letting them know how strictly your Majesty required, that it should remain an inviolable Secret.

Since then Mr. M. and Mr. Secretary are come down hither; and, upon their whole Discourse, three Things have principally occurred, and are humbly suggested to your Majesty.

1. That the entertaining a Proposal of this Nature, seems to be attended with very many ill Consequences, if the F. did not act a sincere Part. But we were soon at Ease as to any Apprehension of this Sort; being fully assured your Majesty would not act but with the utmost Nicety, in an Affair wherein the Glory, and

* Orford.

† Montague.

§ Shrewsbury.

the Safety of *Europe* were so highly concerned.

2. The second Thing considered was, the very ill Prospect of what was like to happen upon the Death of the King of *Sp.* in case nothing was done, previously, towards the providing against that Accident, which seemed probably to be very near; the King of *F.* having so great a Force, in such a Readiness, that he was in a Condition to take Possession of *Sp.* before any other Prince could be ready to make a Stand. Your Majesty is the best Judge, whether this be the Case, who are so perfectly informed of the Circumstances of Parts abroad. But so far as relates to *England*, it would be Want of Duty not to give Your Majesty this clear Account, That there is a Deadness and Want of Spirit in the Nation universally, so as not at all to be disposed to the Thought of entering into a new War, and that they seem to be tired out with Taxes, to a Degree beyond what was discerned, till it appeared upon the Occasion of the late Elections. This is the Truth of the Fact, upon which Your Majesty will determine what Resolutions are proper to be taken.

3. That which remained was, the Consideration what would be the Condition of *Europe*, if the Proposal took Place. Of this we thought ourselves little capable

ble of judging: But it seemed, that if *Sicily* was in the Hands of the *F.* they would be entirely Masters of the *Levant* Trade; that if they were possessed of the *Final*, and those Ports on that Side, whereby *Milan* would be entirely shut out from Relief, or any other Commerce, that Dutchy would be of little Signification in the Hands of any Prince; and that if the King of *F.* was in Possession of any Part of *Guipuscoa*, which is mentioned in the Proposal, besides the Ports he would have in the Ocean, it does seem he would have as easy a Way of invading *Sp.* on that Side, as he now has on the Side of *Catalonia*. But it is not to be hoped, that *F.* will quit its Pretences to so great a Succession, without considerable Advantages; and we are all assured your Majesty will reduce the Terms as low as can be done, and make them, as far as is possible in the present Circumstances of Things, such as may be some Foundation of the future Quiet of the Kingdom; which all your Subjects cannot but be convinced is your true Aim.

If it could be brought to pass, that *England* might be some Way a Gainer by this Transaction, whether it was by the Elector of *Bavaria* (who is the Gainer by your Majesty's Interposition in this Treaty) his coming to an Agreement to

The HISTORY of

let us have some Trade to the *Spanish* Plantations, or in any other Manner, it would wonderfully indear your Majesty to your *English* Subjects.

It does not appear, in case this Negotiation should proceed, what is to be done on your Part, in order to make it take Place ; whether any more be required than that the *English* and *Dutch* sit still, and *F.* itself is to see it executed ; and if that be so, what Security ought to be expected, that, if by our being neuter, the *French* be successful, they will confine themselves to the Terms of the Treaty, and not attempt to make farther Advantages of their Success.

I have put the Seal to the Commission, without expecting the Return of the Warrant. The Commission is written by Mr. Secretary, and no Creature has the least Knowledge of any Thing, besides the Persons already named. I pray God give your Majesty Honour and Success in all your Undertakings.

I am, with the utmost Duty and Respect,

S I R,

Your Majesty's most

Dutiful, and most

Obedient Subject and Servant,

S O M E R S.

It appears by his Majesty's Letter, that the first Proposal of this Treaty was made by the *French* King to the Earl of *Portland*, while that Nobleman was in *France*: And it was probably in order to make King WILLIAM come the more readily into it, without suspecting any latent Subterfuge, that he endeavoured to dazzle his Majesty's Eyes by the extraordinary Reception he gave to his Ambassador, and the Marks of his Esteem and Affection which he shew'd him in several Letters. And now, that his Sincerity might be the more conspicuous, he orders his own Ambassador, Count *Tallard*, to make the same Propositions to the King in Person, who readily receives them; though Lord *Somers*, and those whom he consulted in *England*, were not so well satisfied of the *French* King's Intentions; as appears by several Expressions in his Lordship's Answer.

But, tho' his Majesty sent over for Advice, he did not stay to receive it. Lord *Somers*'s Letter bears date *August* the 28th, and on the 29th of *August* N. S. several Days before his Majesty received it, a Treaty was concluded to the following Purport, and signed by the Earl of *Portland* and Sir *Joseph Williamson* on the Part of *England*, Count *Tallard* on the Part

The Treaty signed.

of *France*, and by eight Plenipotentiaries of the States-General.

Articles
of it.

“ I. That the Peace of *Ryswick* should be confirmed.

“ II. That in Consideration of the ill State of the King of *Spain's* Health, and for preserving the public Peace, in case the said Prince should die without Issue, the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Sicily*, with the Places then depending upon the *Spanish* Monarchy, situated on the Coast of *Tuscany*, or the adjacent Islands of *St. Stephano*, *Porto-Hercule*, *Orbitello*, *Telamone*, *Porto-Longo*, *Piombino*, the Marquisate of *Final*, the Province of *Guipuscoa*, particularly the Towns of *Fontarabia*, and *St. Sebastian*, and more especially *Fort-Passage*, and likewise all Places on the *French* Side of the *Pyrenees*, or the other Mountains of *Navarre*, *Alava*, or *Biscay*, on the Side of the Province of *Guipuscoa*, with all the Ships and Gallies, and other Appurtenances belonging to the said Gallies, should be given to the Dauphin, in Consideration of his Right.

“ III. That the Crown of *Spain*, and the other Kingdoms and Places, both within and without *Europe*, should descend to the Electoral Prince of *Ba-*
“ *varia*,

“ *varia*, of whom his Father, the Ele-
 “ ctor, was to be Guardian and Admi-
 “ nistrator, till he came of Age.

“ IV. That the Dutchy of *Milan*
 “ should be allotted to the Archduke
 “ *Charles*, the Emperor's second Son.”

This Treaty was to be communicated to the Emperor, and the Elector of *Bavaria*, by the King of *Great Britain* and the States-General; and if they did not agree to it, then the Portion of the Party not agreeing, should remain in Sequestration, till Things could be accommodated. And in case the Electoral Prince of *Bavaria* should come to inherit his Share, and yet die before his Father, without Issue, the Elector was to succeed him in those Dominions, and his Heir after him. Likewise the Dutchy of *Milan*, upon the Archduke's Refusal of it, was to be sequester'd, and govern'd by the Prince of *Vaudemont*, and after him by his Son.

While the *French* King was thus decoying King WILLIAM into the Treaty of Partition, merely to amuse him for the Present, the Marquis d' *Harcourt*, the *French* Ambassador at *Madrid*, was labouring by all Manner of Means, to pave the Way to the *Spanish* Throne for a Prince of the House of *Bourbon*. But the Queen of *Spain*, who was nearly related to the King of the *Romans*, and en-
 French In-
 trigues at
 the Court
 of *Spain*.

tirely in the Interest of the House of *Austria*, by her Vigilance so circumvented his Intrigues, that all he could accomplish for some time, was to engage Cardinal *Portocarrero* in the Interest of *France*. However, in the mean time, the *French* strengthened themselves in the North, by a Treaty with the Crown of *Sweden*; and 60,000 of his most Christian Majesty's best Troops were marched to the Frontiers of *Catalonia* and *Navarre*. Ships of War, likewise, and Gallies, were sent into several Ports of *Spain*. A great Camp was formed at *Compeigne*, under the Pretence of instructing the Duke of *Burgundy* in the Art of War; but design'd, in reality, to make a sudden Irruption, upon the first Occasion, into the *Spanish Netherlands*. From these Circumstances, and what actually followed upon the King of *Spain's* Death, we may learn how just were the Precautions, and how salutary the Counsels, which the Lord *Somers* laid before his Majesty, tho' they came too late to take Effect. But the expected Revolution did not happen immediately; for the Recovery of the King of *Spain*, beyond all Appearance of Probability, dispelled the Fears of one Party for the present, and disappointed the Hopes of the other.

Mr. PRIOR's Negotiations.

55

King WILLIAM, at the latter End of the Summer, made a Visit to the Duke of Zell; and, at his Return to *Loo*, received one from the Duke of *Bavaria*, who came to pay his Acknowledgments for the Care taken of him in the Treaty of Partition. His Majesty likewise, to his immortal Honour, found Means to put an End to the *Hungarian* War, which had lasted fifteen Years, by setting on foot the Conferences at *Carlowitz*, which ended in several Treaties between the *Imperialists*, the *Russians*, the *Poles*, the *Turks*, and the *Venetians*. But arriving at *London* before *Christmas*, he opened a new Parliament, which gave him a great deal of Mortification. They obliged him to reduce his Army, both in *England* and *Ireland*, and to send home his *Dutch* Guards, notwithstanding the great Reluctance his Majesty expressed on this Occasion: And all this at a Time when, in his Opinion, * “there was great Hazard in “breaking such a Number of the Troops”.

King Wil-
liam goes
into Ger-
many, and
procures a
Peace in
Hungary.

Is mortifi-
ed at
home.

It might well be supposed indeed, that neither the Parliament, nor the Privy-Council, saw so much of the present Danger as his Majesty; because, for Reasons then subsisting, he made the Partition Treaty a Secret to them both: Yet

* See his Speech at passing the Bill 1699.

The HISTORY of

they could not but apprehend the Power of *France*, in case of the King of *Spain's* Demise, though they did not think proper to shew it any Regard.

Farther
perplexed
by his Par-
liament.

The next Summer his Majesty, according to Custom, went to *Holland*, and resided there till near the Time of Parliament. Upon his Return he found this, as well as the preceding, a very troublesome Session. They resumed the Grants which his Majesty had made of the *Irish* forfeited Estates, and tack'd the Bill for this Resumption to that for the yearly Supply. They concerted an Address, praying, " That *John* Lord *Somers*,
" Lord Chancellor of *England*, should be
" removed for-ever from his Majesty's
" Presence and Councils"; and though this passed in the Negative, on Account of Lord *Somers's* great Services and acknowledged Merit, yet they came to a Resolution, " That an Address be made
" to his Majesty, that no Person who was
" not a Native of his Dominions, ex-
" cept his Royal Highness Prince *George*
" of *Denmark*, be admitted to his Ma-
" jesty's Councils in *England* or *Ireland*". This was levell'd chiefly at the two Favourites, the Earls of *Portland* and *Albemarle*, who had been successively thought too powerful in Council: And the King had no other Way to avoid its
being

being presented, but by going suddenly to the House of Lords, passing the Bills that were ready, and putting an End to the Session.

The first Partition Treaty was not long in Force ; for the Electoral Prince of *Bavaria*, appointed Successor to the King of *Spain*, died during this Session of Parliament. Hereupon Lord *Portland*, soon after, began to treat about a new Partition, in Favour of the Archduke *Charles*. The Earl of *Jersey* was sent into *France* on this Occasion, and he and Lord *Portland* were joined in a Commission by his Majesty, as his Plenipotentiaries, for agitating and concluding a new Treaty. The Negotiations were over by the 15th of *March* (though the Prince died but on the 6th of *February*) and a Treaty was that Day signed between the *English* and *Dutch* on the one Part, and the *French* on the other. The Conditions of it were,

The second Treaty of Partition.

1700.

“ I. That *Spain*, *Flanders*, and the
 “ *West-Indies*, which by the former Treaty had been allotted to the Prince of
 “ *Bavaria*, should devolve to the Arch-
 “ duke *Charles*, the Emperor's Second
 “ Son.

“ II. That *Naples* and *Sicily*, with
 “ the rest of the *Spanish* Provinces on
 “ the Coast of *Italy*, as likewise the Pro-
 “ vince

“ vince of *Guipuscoa*, should be assigned
 “ to the Dauphin.

“ III. That *Lorrain* should be annexed
 “ to *France*, the Dutchy of *Milan* be
 “ conferr’d on the Duke of *Lorrain*,
 “ and the County of *Bitsche* on the Prince
 “ of *Vaudemont*”.

The Plan of this new Treaty, in Case the former became insufficient, had been formed before the End of the preceding Year; and the Court of *Madrid*, it appears, suspected somewhat of this Nature. His Catholick Majesty, so early as *August* 1699, did not fail to remonstrate against the Division of his Dominions in his Life-Time: And the following Paper, written in *Spanish*, was presented on this Occasion to Mr. *Stanhope*, the *English* Minister at the Court of *Spain*, by Don *Antonio de Ubilla*, Secretary of the *Dispatcho Universal*.

Memorial
 of the *Spanish* Secre-
 tary.

“ Don *Antonio de Ubilla* kisses the
 “ Hands of Don *Alexander Stanhope*, En-
 “ voy Extraordinary of his *Britannic*
 “ Majesty, and lets him know, that the
 “ King his Master having been frequently
 “ informed by his Ministers in the North,
 “ of the strong Informations, and even
 “ evident Proofs, which they have by
 “ different Advices and Accidents, that
 “ the *English*, *Hollanders*, and *French*,
 in

“ in Consequence of what was last Year
 “ concluded and stipulated at *Loo*, are
 “ now again forming new Treaties for
 “ the Succession to this Crown, and for
 “ the dividing of it ; which Notices have
 “ been corroborated by other Ways, so
 “ that they are public over all *Europe* ;
 “ it would be against his Dignity to dissem-
 “ ble, and take no Notice of them. The
 “ King his Master thinks it inexcusable
 “ not to oppose what might produce such
 “ irreparable Inconveniences, if it came
 “ to be put in Execution ; and has ordered
 “ his Ministers in the Courts of *France*,
 “ *England*, and *Holland*, to make known
 “ to those Princes and Governments, the
 “ just Sentiments his Majesty has of those
 “ Advices, never heard of before in the
 “ Life of any King, and more impro-
 “ per in that of his Majesty, which con-
 “ sisting at present (by the divine Mercy,
 “ and for our Happiness) in only thirty-
 “ eight Years of Age, we may natu-
 “ rally promise ourselves, and especially
 “ from the most high Providence, that
 “ he may give his Majesty the important
 “ Succession which we hope for from
 “ him, by the affectionate Prayers and
 “ Votes of his Vassals ; it causing a just
 “ Wonder and Grief, that they doubt
 “ before-hand of so great a Possibility,
 “ by Reason of any Opinions taken up
 “ from

“ from the slight Complaints, and the
 “ Affliction of his Kingdoms and Sub-
 “ jects, and the Impressions that seem to
 “ disturb the great Tranquillity which we
 “ now enjoy: When, on the other Hand,
 “ it is not to be believed from the righ-
 “ teous and pious Mind of his Majesty,
 “ that he lives so unmindful of his Ob-
 “ ligation, and values so little the Love
 “ and Security of his Vassals, that if
 “ God (by his occult and sovereign Judg-
 “ ments) would chastise us, by taking
 “ away his Life (which we hope he will
 “ not suffer) without granting him the
 “ Benefit of a Succession, his Affairs will
 “ be left without a due Reflection on
 “ what is most just, and most important
 “ for the public Tranquillity, and so that
 “ no Body shall be able to find fault with
 “ his Justice nor his Foresight. For which
 “ Reasons, his Majesty has ordered his
 “ aforesaid Ministers to make Instances,
 “ and use their Diligence to cut off these
 “ Negotiations; weighing the ill Effects
 “ which they now produce, and what
 “ their Continuance may produce. And
 “ that the Complaint of his Majesty, and
 “ the Orders he gives to his Ministers
 “ abroad, to notify to the Princes at
 “ whose Courts they reside, may be at the
 “ same Time made public; he has lately
 “ ordered, that it be made known to the
 “ Ministers

“ Ministers here: For this Reason does
 “ Don *Antonio de Ubilla* communicate it
 “ to Don *Alexander Stanhope*, by order
 “ of his Master, that he may also give
 “ Notice to his *Britannic* Majesty, assist-
 “ ing with his prudent Representations
 “ this just and honest Purpose; that so
 “ the universal Quiet may be maintain’d,
 “ and that he may quit the Scandal of
 “ this Negotiation, which it is feared will
 “ be an unhappy Motive of kindling the
 “ voracious Flame of a new War; which
 “ being once lighted, will be difficult to
 “ be extinguished, either by the greatest
 “ Force, or the most dextrous and power-
 “ ful Mediation: And he remains obedient
 “ to Don *Alexander Stanhope* with all
 “ Affection”.

Agreeably to what is mentioned in this
 Paper, a Remonstrance in *French* was
 presented to the Lords Justices in *England*
 on the same Head, by the Marquis *de*
Canales, Ambassador from the King of
Spain. The Translation of it has been
 thus printed:

“ That his Catholick Majesty hav-
 “ ing been informed by evident Proofs,
 “ that his Majesty King WILLIAM, the
 “ *Hollanders*, and other Powers (in con-
 “ sequence of what they have treated
 “ and stipulated last Year at *Loo*) are now
 “ at this Time actually hatching new
 “ Treaties

The Span-
 ish Am-
 bassador's
 Remon-
 strance.

“ Treaties for the Succession to the Crown
 “ of *Spain*, and (what is most detestable)
 “ contriving its Division and Repartition;
 “ His Majesty orders his Extraordinary
 “ Embassador residing in this Kingdom
 “ to make known to the first Lords and
 “ Ministers of *England*, the just Resent-
 “ ment which his Majesty has against
 “ these Proceedings and Operations, ne-
 “ ver before seen, nor ever attempted to
 “ be treated of by any Nation in Regard
 “ to the Interest of another; and still
 “ less, during the Life of a Monarch,
 “ who is of so fit an Age to have rea-
 “ son to hope (for many Years) a Suc-
 “ cession so much wished for by all Na-
 “ tions; who, without a detestable Ava-
 “ rice, could not be provok’d to usurp
 “ and over-turn another Prince’s Country.

“ That if this was permitted, and
 “ was not contrary to the Law of Na-
 “ ture, no Nation nor Dominion could
 “ be safe against the Machinations and
 “ Deceits of the Strongest and most Ma-
 “ licious; whereas Reason, and not
 “ Force, confines Nations.

“ That if it was permitted to Stran-
 “ gers to take Notice, and to put their
 “ Hands into the Lines of Succession of
 “ Kings and Sovereigns, there would be
 “ no Statutes nor municipal Laws to be
 “ observed in the one, nor in the other;

“ nor

“ nor could any be free from the At-
“ tempts of others, and the Crown of
“ *England* less than any.

“ That if we lie watching the Indisposi-
“ tions of Sovereigns, no Health would be
“ constant, no Life safe, while the one
“ and the other depend on the Hand of
“ the Almighty, who regulates Life,
“ Death, and Empires.

“ That the Impressions which one
“ Kingdom makes upon the other, to
“ tempt the Faith of the Subjects, and
“ to excite their Minds to a Rising, are an
“ Offence, and but a Degree less than the
“ betraying the good Faith which ought
“ to be observed among Christians, and
“ more particularly among Allies and
“ Friends.

“ That we ought not to presume that
“ any Prince, or Nation, and still less
“ the King of the *Spanish* Nation, is so
“ negligent, as not to take just Measures
“ against Accidents that may happen when
“ least thought of, to secure the public
“ Peace, and the Repose of *Europe*,
“ which has been the Aim of the King-
“ dom and the Nation for so many Ages,
“ as it is now and will always be.

“ That if these Proceedings, these Ma-
“ chinations and Projects are not quickly
“ put a Stop to, we shall, without doubt,
“ see a dire and universal War over all *Eu-*

“ *rope*,

“ *rope*, difficult to stop even when we
 “ are willing, and most sensible and
 “ prejudicial to the *English* Nation,
 “ which has newly tried and felt what
 “ Novelties, and the last War have cost
 “ them. This Matter is so worthy of
 “ Reflection and Consideration, that it
 “ is not doubted but it will be own’d as
 “ such by the Parliament, the Nobility,
 “ and all the *English* Nation, which has
 “ always been so full of Foresight into
 “ the present and future Times.

“ The same Nation must consider its
 “ particular Interests, the Trade and the
 “ Treaties, which she principally has with
 “ the King and the *Spanish* Nation; the
 “ Alteration, the Division, and Separation
 “ of which, would of Necessity
 “ draw after it considerable Prejudices and
 “ Damages; and all this is prevented by
 “ cutting short the Project that is begun,
 “ and not to help on Novelties, that
 “ have from all Times been hurtful to
 “ Empires and Sovereignities.

“ That the Extraordinary Ambassador
 “ of *Spain* will manifest to the Parliament,
 “ when it shall be assembled, the
 “ just Resentment which he now expresses,
 “ as his Master has caused it to
 “ be notified to all the public Ministers
 “ of the Kings, Princes, and Republics,
 “ that reside at the Court of *Madrid*”.

In

In answer to this Memorial, Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, by his Majesty's Order, wrote a Paper in *French* to the *Spanish* Ambassador, which was dated the 30th of *September* 1699, and is thus translated.

‘ His Majesty having seen the Paper
 ‘ which the Secretary of the Embassy of Secretary
 Vernon's
 Paper.
 ‘ *Spain* has lately delivered, by order of
 ‘ your Excellency, to several of the Lords
 ‘ Justices of the Kingdom; His Majesty
 ‘ has found the Contents so insolent and
 ‘ seditious, that in Resentment of so ex-
 ‘ traordinary a Proceeding, and which
 ‘ can by no Means be justified by the
 ‘ Law of Nations, He orders that you
 ‘ go out of his Dominions precisely in
 ‘ eighteen Days, to be counted from this
 ‘ Notification, and that you keep in your
 ‘ House, without going out of the Li-
 ‘ mits of it, till your Departure. I am
 ‘ also commanded to let you know, that
 ‘ these are the Orders of His Majesty, that
 ‘ no Writing be any more received from
 ‘ you, nor any of your Domesticks’.

His Excellency Mr. *Stanhope* also presented a Memorial to *Don Antonio de Ubilla*, containing a Complaint of the *Marquis de Canales's* Proceedings. It was delivered at the *Escurial* Nov. 3. N.S. 1699. and is thus rendered into *English*.

‘ *Don Alexander Stanhope*, Envoy Ex- Mr. Stan-
 hope's Me-
 morial.
 ‘ traordinary of the King of *Great Britain*,
 F kisses

‘ kisses the Hands of Don *Antonio de*
 ‘ *Ubilla*, and says that he has Orders from
 ‘ the King his Master, immediately to
 ‘ convey to the Royal Knowledge of his
 ‘ Catholick Majesty, the just Motive of
 ‘ Complaint given him by a Paper, which
 ‘ the Secretary of the Marquis *de Canales*,
 ‘ by Order of his Master, delivered to
 ‘ the Lords Justices of *England* in *Lon-*
 ‘ *don*, of which the adjoined is a true
 ‘ Copy, and from whose Contents, be-
 ‘ sides the rude and provoking Language,
 ‘ it is manifest the Design of it was to
 ‘ stir up Sedition in his Kingdoms, by
 ‘ appealing to the Parliament and People
 ‘ of *England* against His Majesty ; which
 ‘ is to own them Superiors to the Royal
 ‘ Person, than which nothing can be
 ‘ more absurd, and contrary to the Con-
 ‘ stitution of the Government of *England*;
 ‘ and is what the said Marquis *de Canales*,
 ‘ Ambassador from his Catholic Majesty,
 ‘ neither ought, nor could be ignorant of,
 ‘ after so many Years Residence in it.
 ‘ Notwithstanding which, the Paper is
 ‘ full of contumelious Language to His
 ‘ Majesty’s Person, making Use of sever-
 ‘ al Artifices, of Insinuations and Threats,
 ‘ purposely to breed a Misunderstanding
 ‘ and Dissention between His Majesty and
 ‘ His Subjects ; an Attempt, which no
 ‘ sovereign Prince can tolerate in His Do-
 ‘ minions:

‘minions: And therefore the King of
 ‘*Great Britain*, his Master, found him-
 ‘self necessitated to cut off short, as
 ‘soon as possible, a Mischief, which by
 ‘the Industry of the Marquis, went on
 ‘spreading itself daily, by ordering he
 ‘should be required to go out of His King-
 ‘doms: And, finally, the said Paper
 ‘being, both in its Expressions and
 ‘Substance, by its Example, affrontive to
 ‘the Majesty and Sacredness of all Kings,
 ‘the King of *Great Britain*, his Master,
 ‘does not believe it possible that the Mar-
 ‘quis writ or published it by Order of
 ‘his Catholic Majesty; but on the con-
 ‘trary, persuades himself, that this his
 ‘Resentment will be much to his Royal
 ‘Satisfaction, as made for the common
 ‘Cause of all Kings: And Don *Alexan-*
 ‘*der Stanhope* hopes, that Don *Antonio*
 ‘*Ubilla* will pass all this to the Royal
 ‘Knowledge of his Catholic Majesty;
 ‘remaining Don *Antonio*’s most humble
 ‘and affectionate Servant’.——

Such an Indignity offered by a Fo-
 reign Ambassador, to the Court at which
 he resided, would no doubt have met with
 a like Return from any Sovereign in *Eu-*
rope, how well-founded soever the Allega-
 tions it was built on might really be. There
 is no Room however to question, but
 many Persons about His Majesty, especi-
 ally

Remarks
 on these
 Papers.

ally those who afterwards joined in prosecuting the Advisers of this arbitrary Agreement, were satisfied in their Minds, that the *Spanish* Complaints, tho' a little too roughly delivered, were not without Reason. I mention this to justify the inserting them here, and to shew how far they may serve for a Vindication of Mr. PRIOR, and the other Patriots who carried on that Prosecution, and who perhaps, by many, may be thought to have acted a little inconsistently in that Affair.

But the Partition is no where painted in such lively Colours, nor the Artifices of the *French* Court, in all her Negotiations about this Time, more fully detected and exposed, than in a Pamphlet that was published the same Year at *Vienna*, and immediately after translated into *English*, under the Title of *The Fable of the Lion's Share verified, in the pretended Partition of the Spanish Monarchy*. Whoever was the Author of it, there is no doubt but the Sense of the Imperial Court, as well as of many neutral Powers, is given therein. I shall therefore make from it a very considerable Extract, that the Reader may know what those Arguments were, which induced not only most of the Courts in *Europe*, but many Subjects of *Great Britain*, otherwise well-affected, to disapprove the Conduct of His *Britannic* Majesty.

‘ When

‘ When the *French* Court express’d so much Zeal for the Peace of *Ryswick*, during the highest Prosperity of their Arms, ’twas easy to foresee that they were meditating other Conquests under the Favour of that Peace, which should be less expensive, and of more Importance than any they could promise to themselves by continuing the War: For to presume they acted by a Motive of Charity, to give Peace to *Christendom*, as they would have us believe, is altogether inconsistent with their preceding Conduct.--They were well informed, that *England* and the United Provinces were much exhausted; and that the Emperor, having borne the Weight of the *Turkish* War for fourteen Years, was no longer able to maintain his Troops upon the *Rhine*. They had put an End to the most troublesome and expensive Part of the War, by an Agreement with *Savoy*: Yet they were resolved to have a Peace; they press’d it vehemently, and concluded one with Disadvantage. They had already bought a Peace from the Duke of *Savoy* by restoring *Pignerol*, in hopes that his Separation from the Confederates, would facilitate the general one; and in this they sacrificed their Ally King JAMES, who had put himself under their Protection, to their common

Design of
France in
 making
 the Peace
 of *Rys-*
wick.

The HISTORY of

‘ Enemy King WILLIAM, with whom
 ‘ they enter’d into private Measures for
 ‘ a stricter Alliance; by virtue of which,
 ‘ the undoubted Right of the Emperor
 ‘ and his Male Line, to the Succession of
 ‘ *Spain*, was to be sacrificed in Requitall,
 ‘ as appear’d soon after.

‘ That the Peace was disadvantageous to
 ‘ the *French*, is evident by the Obliga-
 ‘ tion they were under to restore so many
 ‘ Places of Importance, which had cost
 ‘ vast Sums of Money to take and fortify;
 ‘ besides others that were to be demolish’d,
 ‘ to the great Weakening of their Fron-
 ‘ tiers. But the vast Designs they had
 ‘ formed, deserved all these Sacrifices.
 ‘ The Catholic King was in such a lan-
 ‘ guishing Condition, as might carry him
 ‘ every Hour to the Grave; and they had
 ‘ his Succession in View. The Continua-
 ‘ tion of the War would have kept the

* *England*
 and *Hol-*
land.

‘ two great * Maritime Powers united to
 ‘ the Emperor and the King of *Spain*,
 ‘ by virtue of their Alliance; which was
 ‘ so prejudicial to *France*, and yet no
 ‘ Way to be dissolved but by a Peace, so
 ‘ that it became absolutely necessary to
 ‘ make one. The Conferences of the
 ‘ *Mareschal de Boufflers*, with the Earl of
 ‘ *Portland*, the Embassy of the Earl to
 ‘ *France*, and the extraordinary Honours
 ‘ done him there, were the Fore-runners
 ‘ of

of the Dissolution of the Confederacy,
 and of the Measures taken between the
French Court and those Powers, to se-
 cure the Succession of *Spain* to the Elec-
 toral Prince of *Bavaria*.

This Expedient, however unjust, Design of
 seemed to the two confederated Nations, France in
 the most proper Means to bring them declaring
 out of an expensive War with Honour, for the E-
 and at the same Time to prevent the lectoral
French from seizing the Succession of Prince of
Spain. But on the other Side, it was Bavaria.
 favourable to *France*, by depriving the
 Emperor of his Right, and putting the
French King into a Condition to appro-
 priate to himself, under the Name of
 the Electoral Prince, whatever he should
 think convenient. Suitable to this View, it
 could not but be advantageous to *France*
 to disarm her Enemies, which was to
 be the first Fruits of the Peace. For
 they were sure the *English* Nation would
 never suffer their King to keep up an
 Army without Necessity; and that the
 United Provinces would, upon the Con-
 clusion of the Treaty, reduce their
 Troops, and apply themselves to the
 Re-establishment of their Trade. And
 as to the *German* Princes, they presum'd,
 that when they should find themselves
 depriv'd of the Supplies they used to
 receive from those Nations, and of the

‘ Winter-quarters which were assigned
‘ them by the Emperor, they would dis-
‘ arm also. Thus the *French* alone re-
‘ maining in Arms, and, by Means of the
‘ Peace, being furnished with sufficient
‘ Opportunities of embroiling Affairs in
‘ *Spain, Germany, England, and the*
‘ *North*, would find no Difficulty in the
‘ Execution of their great Designs, upon
‘ the Death of the King of *Spain*, which
‘ they thought near at Hand. The Dis-
‘ arming succeeded to their Expectation;
‘ and in less than six Months they saw
‘ their Enemies out of a Condition to hurt
‘ them; which made them raise their
‘ Thoughts to higher Things than they
‘ had before projected. To make the best
‘ Use therefore of this favourable Con-
‘ juncture, after they had broken a few
‘ useless Troops, and sent home the Mi-
‘ litia, which they could raise again at
‘ Pleasure, they marched the best of their
‘ Troops towards the *Pyrenees*, fitted out
‘ Fleets of Ships and Gallies to cruize
‘ upon the Coasts of *Spain* and *Italy*, and
‘ convey’d Men, disguis’d like *Spaniards*,
‘ into the City of *Madrid*, to assist their
‘ Ambassador, who by his Intrigues had
‘ already put that Court into the utmost
‘ Confusion.

‘ In this Posture of Affairs the Catho-
 ‘ lick King recovers, almost miraculously ;
 ‘ which, with the Disposition that ap-
 ‘ pear’d towards the speedy Conclusion of
 ‘ a Truce between the Emperor and the
 ‘ *Turks*, made the Court of *France* slacken
 ‘ its Pace, lest his Catholick Majesty (who
 ‘ had constantly refused to declare him-
 ‘ self in Favour of the Electoral Prince)
 ‘ should enter into Measures with the Em-
 ‘ peror, armed and victorious, to bring
 ‘ the Archduke *Charles* into *Spain*: There-
 ‘ fore, since they could not flatter them-
 ‘ selves any longer with the Hopes of ob-
 ‘ taining their Ends without the Assistance
 ‘ of *England* and *Holland* (who had en-
 ‘ gaged no farther than for the Electoral
 ‘ Prince) they entered into a Negotiation
 ‘ with them upon that Project; and co-
 ‘ vering their Ambition under the specious
 ‘ Pretence of the publick Good, and
 ‘ Preservation of Peace, were compassing
 ‘ their main Design by oblique and indi-
 ‘ rect Ways and Methods.

‘ ’Tis evident, that by engaging the
 ‘ two Maritime Powers, and the Elector
 ‘ of *Bavaria*, to secure the Succession of
 ‘ *Spain* to the Electoral Prince, they
 ‘ should actually embroil them with the
 ‘ Emperor, whose Power by that Means
 ‘ would be so diminished, that either he
 ‘ would be obliged to treat privately with
 ‘ *France*

The HISTORY of

‘ *France* upon such Terms as he could
 ‘ get; or else, under Pretence of putting
 ‘ the Electoral Prince into Possession, they
 ‘ themselves would seize into their Hands
 ‘ all the best Places, in order to leave him
 ‘ only what they pleased.

‘ The Council of *Spain*, seeing the
 ‘ Emperor disabled by this League from
 ‘ maintaining his Right by Arms, and
 ‘ justly fearing their Monarchy would be
 ‘ dismember’d, could no Way avoid to
 ‘ admit the Electoral Prince, and so fall
 ‘ into the Snare laid for them.

‘ Most of the States of *Europe*, interest-
 ‘ ing themselves no farther than to pre-
 ‘ vent the Union of the *Spanish* Monarchy
 ‘ to that of *France*, would entertain less
 ‘ Jealousy of the Possession they should
 ‘ take in the Name of the Electoral Prince.
 ‘ And thus, when they had posted them-
 ‘ selves in *Spain* and *Italy*, either a new
 ‘ War must be made to drive them out
 ‘ again, or they must have had, by an
 ‘ Agreement prejudicial to all *Europe*,
 ‘ whatever they should think convenient
 ‘ for themselves, in order to save the Rest
 ‘ for that Prince: And for this they had
 ‘ made early Provision; for we now cer-
 ‘ tainly know that they had already sti-
 ‘ pulated with the Elector of *Bavaria*,
 ‘ that the Kingdom of *Naples* and *Sicily*,
 ‘ which

‘ which they have so long coveted, should
‘ be yielded to them.

‘ If the *Spaniards* and Maritime Powers
‘ should acknowledge the Prince Electo-
‘ ral's Right to the Crown of *Spain*, not-
‘ withstanding the Archdutchess's Mo-
‘ ther's Renunciation of all her Rights to
‘ the *Spanish* Monarchy, which was made
‘ after the most solemn Manner, in Fa-
‘ vour of the Emperor and his Descendants
‘ of the Male Line; this would be to
‘ create a Title in the *French*, to be dis-
‘ puted hereafter with that Prince, under
‘ the Name of the Dauphin, representing
‘ the eldest Daughter of *Philip IV*; where-
‘ as the Electoral Prince represented only
‘ the Younger: The Renunciation of the
‘ Queen, Mother of the Dauphin, as the
‘ *French* would have given out, being of
‘ no more force against him, than that of
‘ the Archdutchess against her Son.—

‘ The Death of the Electoral Prince,
‘ which happened in the midst of these
‘ noble Projects, cast the *French* and their
‘ Allies into new Perplexities. The most
‘ Christian King was fully convinced, that
‘ if he pretended to the whole Succession
‘ of *Spain*, in order to incorporate those
‘ Dominions with his own Crown, he
‘ should arm all *Europe* against himself.
‘ And if he pretended to obtain it sepa-
‘ rate and independant for one of his
‘ Grand-

‘ Grandsons, his Allies would not fail to
 ‘ oppose him privately; and by corres-
 ‘ ponding secretly with the Emperor and
 ‘ Catholick King, be enabled to destroy
 ‘ the Foundation of his Hopes. These
 ‘ Considerations moved him to propose
 ‘ several Expedients, to dissipate their Sus-
 ‘ picions; whilst his Ambassador at *Ma-*
 ‘ *drid* endeavoured to persuade the *Spa-*
 ‘ *niards*, by all the Strength of Promises,
 ‘ Intrigues, and Bribes, to admit one of
 ‘ his Grandsons. But the Catholic King
 ‘ and the Allies of *France* expressing their
 ‘ Aversion to this Project, he at last agreed
 ‘ with King WILLIAM in another Expe-
 ‘ dient to determine this great Affair;
 ‘ which was, by Way of Provision, to
 ‘ divide the Succession of *Spain* between
 ‘ the Dauphin and the Archduke *Charles*.

Design of
France in
 the Treaty
 of Parti-
 tion.

‘ This Treaty, tho’ mysteriously con-
 ‘ cealed, took Wind, and awaken’d the
 ‘ Suspicions of the Courts of *Vienna* and
 ‘ *Madrid*. Yet there was some Reason to
 ‘ doubt; first, because King WILLIAM,
 ‘ and two or three Persons alone of the
 ‘ greatest Figure in *Holland*, were said to
 ‘ be concerned, and then, a Fact of such
 ‘ Enormity and Injustice wanted all Ap-
 ‘ pearance of Probability. But the most
 ‘ Christian King, finding himself oblig’d
 ‘ to maintain great Forces, that exhausted
 ‘ his Treasures, in Expectation of a Suc-
 ‘ cession

cession which the Recovery of the Catholic King render'd every Day more uncertain and remote; and apprehending on the other Hand, by Reason of his great Age, that if he should come to die without finishing this important Enterprize, the Dauphin might find himself too weak, or of too little Credit to sustain it with Success, he thought himself necessitated to put all to Hazard, by making the Treaty public, with the Circumstances which every Man knows.

How rash soever the publishing of this Treaty may seem, it cannot be said to have been resolv'd without mature Deliberation. The State of Affairs in *Europe* was inviting. *Spain*, in the utmost Perplexity and Confusion, lay under the Terror of his Arms, which threatened them by Sea and Land: All their Places unprovided, and their Frontiers open on all Sides: The great Maritime Powers, from whom they ought to expect most, disarmed, and in all Appearance brought over to support the Treaty. These were such Considerations, as might well oblige the *Spaniards* to think the Admission of a Son of *France* to the Crown of *Spain*, would be a tolerable Thing in the Danger they were in of being torn in Pieces. And this was presently perceived by the *French* to be

Reasons of
France for
publishing
the Treaty of Partition.

the

‘ the worst that could happen. There
 ‘ was a Party formed in *Spain*, to pro-
 ‘ mote this Admission: For many prin-
 ‘ cipal Persons among the Clergy had al-
 ‘ ready swallowed the Bait, through a vain
 ‘ Desire of Ease and Quiet, which they
 ‘ covered with the specious Pretext of
 ‘ Religion. Possibly, there was yet a
 ‘ greater Party among the *Grandeos*, of
 ‘ whom one Part trembled at the Danger
 ‘ of losing all by Resistance, and the other
 ‘ was seduced by Hopes of reaping Advan-
 ‘ tages from the Change. As to the Em-
 ‘ peror, they saw him sufficiently em-
 ‘ ploy’d, in regulating his Frontiers with
 ‘ the *Turk*, and disbanding Part of his
 ‘ Forces, in order to recruit his Treasures.
 ‘ So that they thought themselves secure
 ‘ from him; especially considering, that
 ‘ the Divisions which had been formed in
 ‘ the Empire about * the Ninth Electo-
 ‘ rate, together with the Northern War,
 ‘ in which they doubted not to engage
 ‘ him, would in all Appearance put him
 ‘ out of a Condition to think of Things
 ‘ abroad. Besides all these favourable Dis-
 ‘ positions, they counted upon the good
 ‘ Fortune of their Monarch, so often ex-
 ‘ perience in the rashest Attempts, and

* That of *Hanover*, erected in 1692, in Favour of his late Majesty’s Father.

* the Talent of the Nation for Negotiations and Intrigues.—

* According to these promising Ideas,
* the *French* Court persuaded themselves,
* that the Publication of the Treaty could
* not but turn to their Advantage. For
* the Emperor, finding himself abandon'd
* by his antient Allies, and not daring to
* rely upon *Spain* in such extreme Confusion,
* would either be forced to accept
* his Lot, rather than lose all; and then
* they knew they should be Masters of
* every Thing in the *Spanish* Monarchy
* that was convenient for them at present,
* with certain Hopes of the rest afterwards:—Or, on the contrary, if the Emperor
* should refuse to accept the Treaty,
* which they thought improbable, then
* they trusted to King WILLIAM and the
* Maritime Powers, who had engaged to
* see the Conditions performed, and doubted
* not to bring in divers other Princes
* and States of *Europe*.——

* Under these auspicious Influences, we
* saw that Treaty published, which is now
* become the Scandal of all *Europe*. A
* Treaty which may be justly called, not
* only a Conspiracy against the *Austrian*
* Family, but against the Liberties of
* *Christendom*; directly tending to enslave
* Mankind to the House of *France*. This
* is the Design of that Treaty; irregular
* in

The Injustice, and Enormity of the Partition Treaty.

‘ in every Part, unjust in Substance, and
 ‘ of the most dangerous Consequences to
 ‘ all Sovereigns, who may with Reason
 ‘ dread the Force of this Example. Hence-
 ‘ forward, if nothing more be necessary
 ‘ to regulate Successions than a superior
 ‘ Force, and a Combination of three or
 ‘ more powerful Princes; What Methods
 ‘ of Caution can they possibly take, to se-
 ‘ cure their Dominions to their Children
 ‘ or Families? The King of *Spain* is not
 ‘ yet in his fortieth Year; he is within
 ‘ the Age of having Children, and his
 ‘ Health may be restored by that Grace
 ‘ of God, which has been so visible in his
 ‘ Preservation. But he lives too long, in
 ‘ the Opinion of the *French*, who have
 ‘ waited for his Death ever since he was
 ‘ born: And not daring to pretend to the
 ‘ whole Succession, lest all *Europe* should
 ‘ take the Alarm, they engage King WIL-
 ‘ LIAM, and two or three leading Men
 ‘ in the United Provinces, whom they had
 ‘ gain’d, to consent, that they should take
 ‘ either by Force or Treaty what they
 ‘ judg’d most convenient for them, leav-
 ‘ ing only for Form Sake such a Share to
 ‘ the Emperor’s second Son, as they were
 ‘ sure to tear from him soon after.—

‘ But this is not all. They carry the
 ‘ Attempt yet farther; and no way trou-
 ‘ ble themselves about the Consent or
 ‘ Refusal

' Refusal of the actual Possessor of so many
 ' Kingdoms and States ; as if he was already
 ' struck out of the Book of the Living ;
 ' or as if, by being childless, he had forfeited
 ' all Right of inquiring who ought
 ' to succeed him. Then, as to his Kingdoms
 ' and Dominions, though the disposing of them
 ' is a Thing that determines their Happiness
 ' or Misery ; they are no more regarded in the
 ' Treaty, than if they were so many Kingdoms
 ' in *Yvetot*, or Republicks of *San Marino*. The
 ' Treaty was proposed to the Emperor and
 ' King of *Spain*, not as a Project upon which
 ' they had Liberty to deliberate ; but as a
 ' fix'd Decree, and irrevocable Sentence, to
 ' which they must submit blindly and without
 ' Reply. There is not the least Mention made,
 ' that the Kingdoms and States to be divided
 ' shall be preserved in the Enjoyment of their
 ' Laws, Customs, Immunities, and Privileges ;
 ' a Favour that might have been stipulated
 ' for them, tho' it had been done, only for
 ' Form Sake ; for we know well enough that
 ' no such Thing is to be expected from *France*.

' The haughty and despotical Manner of the
 ' *French*, in giving the two Monarchs notice
 ' of the Treaty, is yet more extraordinary.
 ' The Marquis *de Villars* presents it to the
 ' Emperor, and pre-

G

' scribes

The HISTORY of

‘ scribes the Term of three Months, to
 ‘ consider whether he will accept or re-
 ‘ fuse the Lot which was assign’d therein
 ‘ to the Archduke *Charles*, his second Son;
 ‘ declaring at the same Time, that un-
 ‘ less he accept within the Term limited,
 ‘ they will give it to another. And for
 ‘ the Catholic King, the Marquis *de*
 ‘ *Torcy*, upon the Delivery of the Treaty
 ‘ to his Ambassador at *Paris*, declares
 ‘ daily, and without farther Compliment,
 ‘ That this Office was performed, in or-
 ‘ der to know whether his Majesty would
 ‘ consent to the Partition, or not: That,
 ‘ in the first Case, they would be content;
 ‘ if otherwise, such Measures would be
 ‘ taken as should be thought most con-
 ‘ venient.——

‘ But the *French* got yet farther; for
 ‘ they will not be contented to dispose
 ‘ of the King of *Spain*’s Dominions as
 ‘ they please, and to pronounce Sentence
 ‘ against him with the highest Indignity:
 ‘ They affirm in the Treaty, that the
 ‘ Right of Succession belongs to the Sons
 ‘ of the Emperor, and the Dauphin of
 ‘ *France*; yet, notwithstanding this Ac-
 ‘ knowledgment, it is stipulated at the End
 ‘ of the seventh Article, that if the Em-
 ‘ peror, and the two Princes his Sons,
 ‘ shall refuse to admit the prescrib’d Par-
 ‘ tition, the two Kings, and the States-
 ‘ General

‘ General will nominate another Prince,
‘ to whom the Share designed for the
‘ Archduke shall be given. Can any Thing
‘ be more unjust and outrageous? They
‘ first deprive the Emperor of his Right
‘ to the Whole; then they divide the
‘ Whole between his second Son the Arch-
‘ duke and the Dauphin of *France*, giv-
‘ ing all the Advantage to the last; and
‘ lastly, they threaten his Imperial Ma-
‘ jesty, that unless he comply, they will
‘ give his Son’s Part to a third Person, in
‘ Punishment of his Offence.

‘ Let Men turn this Proceeding which
‘ Way they please, they will not find
‘ such an Example of Injustice and Arro-
‘ gance, in either Christian or Profane Hi-
‘ story. Surprisals, Breach of Treaties,
‘ Invasions and Desolation of Countries,
‘ are Attempts that cry aloud for Ven-
‘ geance; and *France* has known how to
‘ make use of them with Success, through-
‘ out the whole Course of the present
‘ Reign: But that kind of hostile Actions
‘ is usually followed by others of like Na-
‘ ture; Men oppose Force to Force, and
‘ when a War is begun, each Party en-
‘ deavours to take all Advantages against
‘ their Enemies. Here the Case is
‘ different. Injustice and Surprisal are
‘ disguised under the Name of Peace;
‘ Way-laying another Prince is said to be

The HISTORY of

‘ convenient for *Europe*, and Usurpation
 ‘ is covered with the deceitful Mask of an
 ‘ amicable Agreement. But what Law,
 ‘ or what Right, had the three contracting
 ‘ Powers, to assume this Authority, and
 ‘ to constitute themselves Sovereign Judges
 ‘ of so vast an Inheritance; to over-throw
 ‘ the Order of Succession that had been
 ‘ so firmly established, and to adjudge the
 ‘ best Part to *France*, that had renounced
 ‘ all by a solemn Treaty? Strange Tribu-
 ‘ nal! where a Party is principal Judge,
 ‘ and where the two others, seduced by
 ‘ mistaken Interests, blindly subscribe his
 ‘ unjust Decisions. And indeed, who
 ‘ could ever have thought that King WIL-
 ‘ LIAM should have engaged with his most
 ‘ dangerous and implacable Enemy, to
 ‘ authorize such an enormous Attempt,
 ‘ so prejudicial to all *Europe*, and to his
 ‘ own People in particular? It is upon
 ‘ this Prince, and his Creatures in *Hol-*
 ‘ *land*, that the Blame must fall: For,
 ‘ as to the *French*, they have been so long
 ‘ in the Possession of attempting any thing
 ‘ to compass their Ends, that nothing now
 ‘ can be surprizing which comes from them.
 ‘ But for King WILLIAM and the States-
 ‘ General, who can see them at the Head
 ‘ of this Treaty without Emotion? —

‘ If

‘ If one should ask these three Powers Aburdities of the
 ‘ what was the Object of their Union, Motives to
 ‘ they answer in the second Article, *To* this Trea-
 ‘ *maintain the general Tranquillity of Eu-* ty.
 ‘ rope: And if we would know what was
 ‘ the Cause of their Apprehensions, they
 ‘ will presently reply, *They could not see*
 ‘ *without Grief, that the State of the King*
 ‘ *of Spain's Health had for some Time been*
 ‘ *so languishing, that the Life of that Prince*
 ‘ *is in great Danger; tho' they cannot*
 ‘ *think upon this Event without Affliction,*
 ‘ *by Reason of the sincere and unfeigned*
 ‘ *Friendship they have for him.* Hitherto
 ‘ all goes wonderfully well; nothing but
 ‘ Christian Charity, the Desire of Peace,
 ‘ and dismal Apprehensions of the Death
 ‘ of the Catholic King. Nay, in Con-
 ‘ firmation of the third Head, we may
 ‘ say, that his most Christian Majesty's
 ‘ Uneasiness about the Health of this good
 ‘ King was carried to some Excess: For
 ‘ his Design to send an Ambassador to
 ‘ *Madrid*, in order to be careful and vi-
 ‘ gilant about him, was the principal Rea-
 ‘ son that mov'd him to press and con-
 ‘ clude the Peace with Disadvantage. This
 ‘ Peace was hardly ratified when his Am-
 ‘ bassador appear'd at *Madrid*, to the
 ‘ Astonishment of the whole Court; and
 ‘ to satisfy his Master's Impatience more
 ‘ punctually, laid the Post-road with his

' own Horses, causing his own Servants
 ' to ride as Post-boys between *Madrid* and
 ' the Frontier, to the End he might be
 ' every Hour informed, without trusting
 ' to the *Spaniards*, about that Health
 ' which concern'd him so much. A lit-
 ' tle Head-ach, or a restless Night, was
 ' become the Subject of an Express. In
 ' a Word, this officious Minister, seeing
 ' the *Spaniards* alarm'd about the Succe-
 ' sion, omitted nothing that might put
 ' them out of Doubt; letting them see at
 ' a Distance great Armies upon their Fron-
 ' tiers, and Squadrons of Ships and Gal-
 ' lies cruizing upon the Coasts of *Spain*
 ' and *Italy*, all ready to decide that
 ' Question." —

The Author then sets forth the Trea-
 chery of the *French* towards the *Spaniards*,
 during the Minority, and thro' the whole
 Reign of the present King; the Instances of
 which he ironically calls, so many Proofs of
 their *sincere and unfeigned Friendship*. Af-
 ter which he proceeds thus:

The Pre-
 tensions of
France to
 the Mo-
 narchy of
Spain
 ground-
 less.

' The most Christian King has renoun-
 ' ced the whole Monarchy of *Spain*, as
 ' well for himself as his Descendants, by
 ' stipulating and accepting the Renuncia-
 ' tion of the Infanta *Maria Teresa*, made
 ' before she was his Wife; and thus vio-
 ' lates this Contract, which was one of
 ' the most solemn and authentic that ever
 ' was

‘ was made between Sovereigns : And all
‘ this founded upon the vainest Sophisms
‘ of the Bar, which are of no Force a-
‘ gainst public Treaties ; because these are
‘ Contracts made *bona fide*, authorized by
‘ the Law of Nations among all People
‘ for the common Benefit of Mankind.
‘ This is the sandy Foundation of his pre-
‘ tended Rights : He produced them in
‘ his Manifesto, and contenting himself
‘ with the Formality, referred their Veri-
‘ fication to the Force of his Arms ; which
‘ is a new Method of Law, that has since
‘ been of admirable Service to him in all
‘ his Designs. But what was there in that
‘ Manifesto, but a continued Thread of
‘ captious Reasonings, which however sup-
‘ ported by the most crafty Disguises, were
‘ only capable of imposing upon the Sim-
‘ ple and Ignorant ? The Author’s Sen-
‘ tences are ambiguous ; his Authorities
‘ remote from the Subject ; and where he
‘ cites the Laws and their Interpreters, he
‘ omits the most important Passages, per-
‘ verts the true Sense of the Words, and
‘ confounds the Sovereign with the Com-
‘ moner. What shall I say more ? He
‘ falsifies known History, affirms most
‘ apparent Falshoods, and denies the most
‘ evident Truths. Thus trampling under
‘ Foot that Justice by which he stands
‘ condemn’d, proving nothing, and en-
‘ larging

‘ larging in false Deductions, he sheds the
 ‘ Poison of his Malignity upon whatever
 ‘ has been most solemnly established by
 ‘ the Law of Nations, for the common
 ‘ Good both of Sovereigns and People;
 ‘ as has been fully proved in the Answers
 ‘ to that Libel, to which the *French* have
 ‘ never dared to reply.” —

We have next a particular Discussion of the *French* King’s pretended Right, and several Instances of those Perversions and Falsifications, which the Author mentions. After insisting on the Moderation of *Philip* II, King of *Spain*, whose Daughter *Isabella*, by *Elizabeth* of *France* his third Wife, was considered as Heiress to the Crown of *France* upon the Death of *Henry* III. he goes on in the following Manner:

Danger
 from the
 Increase of
 the *French*
 Power.

‘ This Example of *Philip*, which the
 ‘ *French* cannot deny, clearly demonstrates,
 ‘ that the House of *Austria*, at the utmost
 ‘ Height of her Power, was always averse
 ‘ from the Use of these pernicious Maxims
 ‘ to satisfy that Ambition, of which she
 ‘ has been so injuriously accused; and by
 ‘ a just Comparison, how dangerous that
 ‘ of *France* is to all *Europe*, since she
 ‘ makes no Difficulty to prostitute what-
 ‘ ever is esteemed most sacred in human
 ‘ Society. By the same Comparison we
 ‘ may judge where to place that *Umbrage*
 ‘ of

‘ of too many Dominions united under one
 ‘ Prince, which is produced in the Trea-
 ‘ ty for a second Reason of avoiding a
 ‘ War. We may add also, that if *France*
 ‘ was able to maintain her Power and Ad-
 ‘ vantages with so much Success in the
 ‘ last War, not only against the Forces of
 ‘ the House of *Austria*, but against those
 ‘ of the Empire, *England*, and *Holland*,
 ‘ either of which alone would have been
 ‘ formidable to them fifty Years ago, no
 ‘ Colour of Doubt can possibly remain.

‘ If the Crown of *Spain* passes from the
 ‘ Catholic King to the Archduke *Charles*,
 ‘ the House of *Austria* increases not in
 ‘ Power, the State of *Europe* remains the
 ‘ same, and I am persuaded, that all those
 ‘ Nations which the *French* endeavour to
 ‘ fill with Suspicions, will like it so well,
 ‘ that none of them would oppose such a
 ‘ Disposition, if the *French* should lay
 ‘ aside their turbulent Practices.

‘ These Umbrages might have been
 ‘ reasonable under the Emperor CHARLES
 ‘ V, who possess’d the Hereditary Domi-
 ‘ nions of his Family with those of the
 ‘ Crown of *Spain*, especially at a Time
 ‘ when *France* was not near so powerful
 ‘ as at this Day. But the Face of Affairs
 ‘ is so much altered since the Division of
 ‘ that August Family into two Branches,
 ‘ that even from the Time of *Philip* the
 ‘ Second,

‘ Second, Son to that great Emperor, and
 ‘ his Successor in the Dominions of *Spain*,
 ‘ her Power began to decline, and conse-
 ‘ quently that of *France* to rise ; which
 ‘ made so great a Progress in a short Time,
 ‘ that the most irreconcilable Enemies of
 ‘ the *Austrian* Family, changing the Ob-
 ‘ ject of their Fears, made haste to her
 ‘ Defence, astonished at the unexpected
 ‘ Change, which convinced them, in Des-
 ‘ pite of the Illusions of *France*, join’d
 ‘ to all the Force of Prepossession, that
 ‘ her Power was far from being established
 ‘ upon so solid a Foundation as that of her
 ‘ Rival.—

No Secu-
 rity in any
 Treaty to
 be made
 with
France.

‘ It would be superfluous to insert the
 ‘ Articles, which tend to make sure of the
 ‘ Maritime Powers to warrant the Treaty,
 ‘ and to persuade them of the Sincerity
 ‘ of *France* in the Execution, as well as
 ‘ to break all the Measures that might be
 ‘ taken by the House of *Austria* to defeat
 ‘ the Design. It is sufficient to examine
 ‘ the Substance by the Great, to demon-
 ‘ strate that the Promises of the *French*
 ‘ are mere Illusions, made only to attain
 ‘ their Ends, which when they have com-
 ‘ pass’d, they certainly know that no Gua-
 ‘ rantees shall be able to stop their Career.
 ‘ So that the Matter in Dispute is not,
 ‘ whether they will execute the Treaty,
 ‘ or not ; for, being wholly to their Ad-
 ‘ vantage,

‘ vantage, there is no doubt to be made
 ‘ of the Execution: But the Question is,
 ‘ Whether they will keep themselves with-
 ‘ in the Bounds of the Treaty? which is
 ‘ a Thing that all *Europe* cannot warrant.
 ‘ No Treaty was ever made with that
 ‘ Crown during the whole Course of the
 ‘ last Age, in which care was not taken
 ‘ to prevent all the *Cbicanes* they could
 ‘ possibly ground upon ambiguous Words,
 ‘ difficult Passages, or Irregularities of Stile,
 ‘ and Law; and yet all these Cautions
 ‘ could never hinder them from putting
 ‘ false Interpretations upon the Text, and
 ‘ pretending Nullities in Law, whenever
 ‘ they found it convenient. —

‘ Things being so, can Men look upon
 ‘ the following Clause stipulated in the
 ‘ fourth Article any otherwise than as a
 ‘ mere Illusion? *The most Christian King, as*
 ‘ *well in his own Name, as in that of Mon-*
 ‘ *sieur the Dauphin, his Male Children,*
 ‘ *Heirs, and Successors, born or to be born;*
 ‘ *as also Monsieur the Dauphin for himself*
 ‘ *and his Children, Male or Female, &c.*
 ‘ *promise and engage to renounce, at the*
 ‘ *Opening of the said Succession of Spain,*
 ‘ *as in this Case they do at this Time re-*
 ‘ *nounce, all their Rights and Pretensions to*
 ‘ *the said Crown of Spain, and to all the*
 ‘ *other Kingdoms, Islands, &c. all which*
 ‘ *they shall confirm by solemn Acts, in the*
 ‘ *most*

The Re-
nunciati-
ons of the
Partition
Treaty
mere Illu-
sions.

‘ *most authentic and best Form that may be:*
 ‘ *Or, upon that in the fifteenth Article?*
 ‘ *All the Acts made in Consequence of the*
 ‘ *Treaty, or that have relation thereunto,*
 ‘ *and especially the solemn Acts which his*
 ‘ *most Christian Majesty, and Monsieur the*
 ‘ *Dauphin, are obliged to give by Virtue*
 ‘ *of the fourth Article, shall be register’d*
 ‘ *in the Parliament of Paris, according to*
 ‘ *their Form and Tenure, and usual Cust-*
 ‘ *tom.* If the Marriage Contracts of the
 ‘ two late Queens of *France*, and the Acts
 ‘ of Renunciation which they gave upon
 ‘ them, were not so well known, it would
 ‘ be easy to shew by the Contents of the
 ‘ fourth, fifth, and sixth Articles of those
 ‘ Contracts, that none of all these Condi-
 ‘ tions are there omitted, but on the con-
 ‘ trary, so firmly stipulated, and attended
 ‘ with such provisional Causes, that pos-
 ‘ sibly greater Care was never taken on
 ‘ both Sides, to establish the Security and
 ‘ Duration of any Treaty.—

The Gua-
 rantees not
 able to se-
 cure the
 Duration
 of the
 Treaty.

‘ Upon the same Principle, the Gua-
 rantee of the Maritime Powers, and all
 ‘ others that should come in, may be con-
 ‘ sider’d as another Illusion. It may in-
 ‘ deed serve to compel the Emperor to be
 ‘ contented with his Lot, but not to force
 ‘ the *French* King to content himself with
 ‘ his: For when he has taken Possession
 ‘ of

‘ of his Share without any Opposition,
‘ he will easily be Master of the Rest.

‘ In every Guarantee there is required,
‘ not only a steady and constant Will,
‘ but also a Strength sufficient to enforce
‘ the Observation of a Treaty; neither of
‘ which is to be found here. For as to
‘ the Will, can we suppose it constant in
‘ King WILLIAM, who is old, infirm,
‘ and, which is more, liable to be cross’d
‘ by contrary Dispositions in his People?
‘ Can we suppose it the United Provinces,
‘ whose Government is so easily emba-
‘ rassed, and who, to obtain a present
‘ Peace, will always sacrifice a future In-
‘ terest? What I here say of these Powers
‘ ought to be understood of all the rest,
‘ who either are subject to such internal
‘ Distempers, as make them unable to
‘ exert themselves, or have Enemies a-
‘ broad, that necessitate them to keep a
‘ vigilant Eye upon Affairs at home.—

‘ But if we can ground no Expectations
‘ upon the Will of the Guarantees, much
‘ less can we upon their Force: For, be-
‘ sides that they may find Employment
‘ at home, or a Diversion abroad, by the
‘ Artifices of the *French* Court, I would
‘ fain know of what Consideration are
‘ the Forces of *England* and *Holland*, in
‘ comparison with those of *France*? And
‘ for those of the Emperor, they may
‘ have

‘ have Work enough to cover his Hereditary Country against such Enemies as that Crown may arm against him. But let us for once suppose that the *French* will find as many Enemies as in the last War, which yet is utterly impossible ; Will they not have such an Accession of Power, as must needs give them the Superiority ? And if no essential Advantage could be obtain’d against them in that, what can we expect in this ?

Indignity
and Absur-
dity of the
Motives
to the
Treaty.

‘ If then the Precautions mention’d in the fourth and fifteenth Articles of the Partition Treaty are mere Illusions, and the Guarantee of the two Maritime Powers, with as many more as would engage, so insufficient a Security for Performance, what might not be here said of the Indignity and Absurdity of the Motives upon which it is founded ? They are full of Compassion for the Sickness of the Catholic King ; they cannot turn their Thoughts towards the sad Event of his Death without Affliction, by Reason of the sincere and unfeigned Friendship they have for him. But to what End are these vain Expressions, unless to colour a Conspiracy formed against his Crown, to put the *French* King into Possession of the best Part, and refer the Rest to his Discretion ? Then, what can be more absurd than
‘ the

‘ the Motive they alledge, pretending to
 ‘ rectify the Injustice and Enormity of
 ‘ the Partition by their Intentions to pre-
 ‘ vent a War? And who does not see,
 ‘ that by the same Injustice they make it
 ‘ unavoidable? the Emperor’s Right, the
 ‘ Interest of *Spain*, and the Security of
 ‘ *Europe* rendering a War indispensably
 ‘ necessary. For to pretend that the Em-
 ‘ peror and the Catholic King should sub-
 ‘ mit to the unjust Decree of these new
 ‘ Legislators, is what can never be requir’d
 ‘ of them with any Colour of Reason.
 ‘ Besides, ’tis the Interest of all Nations,
 ‘ to whom this Treaty is injurious, and
 ‘ like to prove fatal, to make this Cause
 ‘ their own; from whence a War must
 ‘ of Necessity ensue, into which all *Europe*
 ‘ will be obliged to enter.—

‘ If the Peace and Tranquillity of *Europe*
 ‘ depended absolutely upon the Execution
 ‘ of the Treaty, the Emperor’s Right might
 ‘ then be consider’d as a private Advan-
 ‘ tage, and as such be esteemed subor-
 ‘ dinate to the general Good; the contrary
 ‘ of which is most true. For the Interest
 ‘ of his Imperial Majesty is that of all
 ‘ *Europe*, whose Peace and Security de-
 ‘ pends entirely upon the Preservation of
 ‘ the whole *Spanish* Monarchy in the Per-
 ‘ son of his second Son; which Truth is
 ‘ but too well prov’d already, and con-
 ‘ firm’d

‘ firm’d even by the Disposition of the
 ‘ Partition-Treaty.

‘ In that Treaty the *French* King has
 ‘ stipulated for himself the Kingdoms of
 ‘ *Naples* and *Sicily*, divers Places and
 ‘ Islands situated upon the Coast of *Tus-*
 ‘ *cany*, the City and Marquisate of *Final*,
 ‘ the Province of *Guipuscoa*, &c. all which
 ‘ Kingdoms, Islands, Provinces, and
 ‘ Places, are to be incorporated with his
 ‘ Crown, together with the Dominions
 ‘ of the Duke of *Lorrain*, who in Re-
 ‘ compence is to receive the Dutchy of
 ‘ *Milan* for himself and his Heirs for ever.
 ‘ The Archduke *Charles* is to have for
 ‘ his Lot *Spain*, with the other Kingdoms,
 ‘ Islands, Dominions, Countries and Places,
 ‘ possess’d at present by the Catholic King,
 ‘ as well in *Europe* as elsewhere; but un-
 ‘ der two Conditions. First, That unless
 ‘ the Emperor accepts the Treaty within
 ‘ the Term of three Months after he is
 ‘ duly inform’d, the Treaters shall agree
 ‘ upon a Prince to whom his Part shall
 ‘ be given. — Secondly, That this Part
 ‘ shall never be united or remain in the
 ‘ Person of any of his Descendants, or
 ‘ the Descendants of the Emperor, who
 ‘ shall be either Emperor, or King of the
 ‘ *Romans*.

‘ These Conditions thus tack’d to the
 ‘ Lot of the Archduke, being only so
 ‘ many

* many Snares laid by the *French*, as well
 * to make his Part insignificant to him, as
 * to have an Occasion to seize the whole
 * into their Hands, I shall endeavour to
 * discover the artificial Contrivance of
 * them.

* 1. The Lot stipulated for the Dau-
 * phin is to be incorporated with the
 * Crown of *France*, which is already but
 * too powerful; whereas that of the Em-
 * peror is to be the Appanage of a younger
 * Son, and that upon Condition never to
 * be united by Succession, or otherwise,
 * to that of the Eldest, if he becomes
 * Emperor; which is such a Dispropor-
 * tion, that, supposing the Equality of the
 * Lots, excludes all Comparison in Point
 * of Advantage, since that of the Dau-
 * phin augments the Grandeur of *France*,
 * whilst that of the Archduke not only
 * deprives the Emperor of his Right to the
 * Whole, but tends directly to overthrow
 * his Power.

The Con-
 ditions
 subjoin'd
 to the
 Arch-
 duke's Lot,
 so many
 Snares to
 bring it
 into the
 Possession
 of the
French.

* 2. The *French* King stipulates for
 * himself what he knows would be most
 * difficult to subdue by Force, *Lorraine* only
 * excepted, and leaves to the Archduke
 * the decay'd and ruinous Dominions of
 * *Spain* and the *Low-Countries*, which
 * cannot fail to fall into his own Hands
 * as soon as he is in Possession of his
 * Lot.——

H

* 3. That

The HISTORY of

‘ 3. That the Lot of the Archduke
 ‘ must fall into the Hands of the *French*
 ‘ as soon as they are in Possession of their
 ‘ Part, needs no Proof ; since ’tis impos-
 ‘ sible for this Prince to keep *Spain*, when
 ‘ he can have no Assistance from abroad,
 ‘ nor any Communication with the He-
 ‘ reditary Countries of his Family in *Ger-*
 ‘ *many*; whilst *France* is Mistress of the
 ‘ Frontiers, as well by her preceding Con-
 ‘ quests, as by the design’d dismembering
 ‘ of *Guipuscoa*. In the next Place, of what
 ‘ Advantage will the *Low-Countries* be to
 ‘ him, unless to serve for a Theatre of
 ‘ eternal Wars with the Crown of *France*,
 ‘ which must of necessity be always tri-
 ‘ umphant, by reason of the Neighbour-
 ‘ hood of its Provinces, and the many
 ‘ Places they possess in those Parts? In
 ‘ which the two Branches of the House
 ‘ of *Austria* will be entirely exhausted;
 ‘ only to preserve a Barrier for the *Dutch*
 ‘ against the Invasions of *France*, in re-
 ‘ compence of the irreparable Mischiefs
 ‘ they have brought upon their Family.
 ‘ In a word, what will be the Fate of
 ‘ the *Spanish* Provinces in *America*, and
 ‘ the *East-Indies*, with the Islands they
 ‘ possess out of *Europe*, unless to become
 ‘ the Scorn of the *French*, *English*, and
 ‘ *Dutch* Pirates? For if the *Spaniards*
 ‘ could not secure them in the Height of
 ‘ their

‘ their Power, what will they be able to
‘ do in this State of Desolation ?

‘ 4. The Condition stipulated by the
‘ Treaters, to nominate a third Per-
‘ son to the Lot of the Archduke, in case
‘ of Refusal, can be considered no other-
‘ wise than as a double Snare laid by *France*
‘ for the Princes of the House of *Austria*,
‘ to deprive them by that Means of what
‘ seemed to be left them by the Treaty : In
‘ this Respect the more dangerous, because
‘ the Emperor could no way avoid it. For
‘ if he accepted the Treaty, he offended
‘ the Catholic King in the highest Degree,
‘ and drew upon himself the Hatred of
‘ the *Spaniards*, which would certainly
‘ have determined them to settle the Crown
‘ upon a Son of *France*.—On the other
‘ Hand, if the Emperor refused the Trea-
‘ ty, they would proceed to nominate
‘ another ; and then, by tampering with
‘ all, they would have sold their Suffrage
‘ to the highest Bidder.

‘ 5. This Condition covers yet a more
‘ dangerous Snare than the former ; for
‘ the three Powers not presently agreeing
‘ upon another Person, the *French* would
‘ take Advantage of that Delay, and pro-
‘ pose the Lot of the Archduke to several
‘ Princes, as a Prey to be divided among
‘ them ; which would be a Means to
‘ bring some of them off from their Al-

The HISTORY of

‘ liance with the House of *Austria*, and
 ‘ to make others neglect their true Interest,
 ‘ in this great Alteration of Affairs.—

‘ 6. The *French* may not only take
 ‘ Advantage of this Delay, to seduce some
 ‘ and amuse others, whilst they fortify
 ‘ their Party in *Spain*, as well by their
 ‘ Intrigues, as by the Terror of their Arms:
 ‘ But the Opportunities they would have
 ‘ in the principal Courts of *Europe*, to
 ‘ lure them into their Interest, or at least
 ‘ to persuade them to enter into the Gua-
 ‘ rantee of the Treaty, would no less
 ‘ contribute to facilitate their grand De-
 ‘ sign. And it is to be feared, that by
 ‘ these Means they may engage such a
 ‘ Party, that both *England* and *Holland*
 ‘ would find it difficult to break, whenever
 ‘ they shall return to their true Interest.—

‘ 7. If King WILLIAM, by the Scheme
 ‘ of the Partition, designed to interest the
 ‘ House of *Austria* in the Defence of the
 ‘ *Low-Countries*, without rendering them
 ‘ too powerful there; and at the same Time,
 ‘ to oblige the *French* to turn the Strength of
 ‘ their Arms from that Frontier, by engag-
 ‘ ing them in an *Italian War*; it is certain
 ‘ he could not take any Measures less con-
 ‘ ducing to that End. For if all the Power
 ‘ of that House could not maintain those
 ‘ Provinces against *France*, confined to its
 ‘ own Limits; What can now be done,
 ‘ after

‘ after so vast an Addition of new Acqui-
 ‘ sitions? And who can tell whether the
 ‘ People of those Countries, weary of suf-
 ‘ fering as much by the fruitless and bur-
 ‘ densome Succours of the Maritime Pow-
 ‘ ers, as from the Invasions of *France*,
 ‘ will not desperately throw themselves
 ‘ into the Arms of that Crown? Then as
 ‘ to the Diversion pretended in *Italy*, if
 ‘ the *French* King becomes Master of
 ‘ *Spain*, either for himself or one of his
 ‘ Family, to which Things seem to tend
 ‘ more and more every Day; either he
 ‘ will find little Difficulty in seizing
 ‘ the *Spanish* Dominions in *Italy*, as ac-
 ‘ cessional to the Head;—or else there
 ‘ will be no Diversion at all. But if, on
 ‘ the other Hand, the Treaty produce its
 ‘ Effect, and the two Branches of the
 ‘ House of *Austria* be deprived of a mu-
 ‘ tual Communication, while *France* is
 ‘ furnished with Means both of divert-
 ‘ ing the Emperor's Arms by an intestine
 ‘ War, and embarrassing the Affairs of the
 ‘ two Maritime Powers, a War in *Italy*
 ‘ can neither be difficult nor lasting.—

‘ Tho’ the Points last mentioned are
 ‘ sufficient to alarm all *Europe*, if the ap-
 ‘ proaching Dangers be duly considered;
 ‘ yet the Court of *France* is so indefati-
 ‘ gable in using all her Arts to disguise or
 ‘ conceal the dismal Prospect, that I think

The HISTORY of

' myself obliged to discover the common
 ' Peril, and to prove with Demonstration,
 ' that tho' the *French* King should not get
 ' one Foot of Ground upon the Death of
 ' his Catholic Majesty ; yet if he can pro-
 ' cure his Dominions to be divided, such a
 ' Dismembering alone would place *France*
 ' in the Throne of the Universal Monar-
 ' chy, to which she has such a vehement
 ' Desire.

The Dis-
 member-
 ing of the
Spanish
 Monar-
 chy, a Ma-
 ster-piece
 of *France*.

' If the *French* scatter their Treasures in
 ' all the Courts of *Europe* ; if they amuse
 ' one Part, and draw the other into their
 ' Interests ; if they embroil People on all
 ' Sides, only for the Sake of embroiling ;
 ' if they maintain great Armies, which
 ' exhaust their Country ; in a word, if
 ' they move Heaven and Hell, to make
 ' as many Enemies to the Emperor as
 ' they can, and to seduce his Allies, no
 ' Man ought to wonder. For this is a
 ' Master-game ; and if they succeed, they
 ' will be re-imburs'd with Interest, and
 ' become absolute Arbitrators of *Europe*.
 ' The great Business of *France* is to tri-
 ' umph over her Rival, which cannot fail,
 ' if she be permitted to tear up the Foun-
 ' dations of her Power, by dismembering
 ' the Dominions of the *Spanish* Monarchy :
 ' For so soon as the House of *Austria* shall
 ' cease to be the Ballance of her Power,
 ' no other Bank will be capable of put-
 ' ting

ting a Stop to her Rapidity and Violence.
And here I cannot but wonder at certain
speculative Politicians, who either thro'
Humour or Prepossession, look upon the
Danger without Concern; relying upon
trivial, antiquated, and unseasonable Ma-
xims. They will wait for a Remedy
from Time, which will either never
come, or will come too late; and they
doubt no more of Revolutions, which
depend entirely upon Chance, than they
do of Evangelical Truths; even inferring
from the present Grandeur and Eleva-
tion of *France*, a Necessity of her ap-
proaching Ruin. If these Enthusiastic
Politicians had well examined the pre-
sent State of *Europe*, and that of *France*,
I am sure they would reason in another
Manner. But I shall only desire they
would consider the Example of the *Ot-*
toman Empire, and then blush at their
own Indiscretion: For if this vast Power
has already continued above four Ages,
it is to be presumed that of *France* may
last longer, especially considering all those
Maxims so proper for Conquest, which
she has not only copied from thence,
but taken care to observe in the most
punctual Manner, both at home and
abroad. It is therefore their Business to
consider, whether this kind of Govern-

‘ment will agree with them or not, for
‘they must determine, and that speedily’.

As the Execution of the Partition Treaty seemed to be the grand Object of the two Maritime Powers, the Author proceeded to shew what Advantages the *French* would obtain by their Lot, in order to their grand Design ; which was to render that of the Archduke so burdensome to him and his Family, as might pave the Way for them to seize it upon the first War. This he did very fully and clearly : But as we have already extracted enough to set this iniquitous Treaty in a strong Light, and to justify even those Subjects of *Great Britain* who disapproved it, I shall not extend this Matter any farther.

While these Negotiations were privately carried on between *France* and the Maritime Powers, as well as when they were made public by the *French* Court, and thus exposed and remonstrated against by the two Branches of the *Austrian* Family, a constant Correspondence was kept up between his Excellency the Earl of *Manchester* in *France*, and my Lord *Jersey*’s Office in *England*, to which Mr. *Prior* belong’d. By inserting the principal Letters that passed at that Time, or such Extracts of them as contain any Thing important, we shall form some Judgment of
the

the Share each of these Ministers had in the Partition Treaty, and in all the other Affairs then on the Carpet.

Mr. PRIOR, I before took notice, staid a short Time in *France* after Lord *Manchester's* Arrival. We learn it from his Lordship's Letters to the Earl of *Jersey*, the first of which here follows.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 8. 1699. N.S.

I Can now acquaint your Lordship, that I arrived here the 5th, and the next Day I sent a Compliment to Monsieur *Saintot*, * who immediately waited on me, and gave me to understand, that Monsieur *de Torcy* was expected in Town. Mr. PRIOR writ to him, and he appointed the Afternoon to see me. Your Lordship knows the usual Ceremonies on such Occasions. He seemed extremely civil, and let me know the King did not return to *Versailles* till *Thursday* next, and that then I should have an Audience of him. The Ambassador of *Savoy* was to wait on me, and this Day I shall return his Visit.——

Letters of
Lord *Manchester*,
Lord *Jersey*,
Mr.
Prior, &c.

* Master of the Ceremonies.

‘ I am obliged to your Lordship for letting me have your House, which I like extremely; though my Equipage not being come from *Rouen*, puts me under some Difficulties: But with the Help of Mr. PRIOR all Things are made easy. He has delivered your Lordship’s Letter to Monsieur *de Torcy*; and he took notice to me how well Mr. PRIOR has behaved himself during his Stay here. ’

MANCHESTER.

The two following Extracts need no particular Remark.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 15, 1699.

‘ I AM now entering upon a troublesome Part of my Business, the King having appointed To-morrow for an Audience at *Versailles*. I cannot tell whether Monsieur and Madame will be there. Mr. PRIOR intends to set out for *Loo* as soon as these Audiences are over, &c. ’

MANCHESTER.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Aug. 19, 1699.

‘ I AM now to acquaint your Lord-
‘ ship that all my private Audiences
‘ are over, except that of the Dauphin and
‘ the Dutcheſs of *Chartres*, which I am
‘ to have To-morrow Morning at *Meudon*.
‘ On Sunday Morning laſt I waited on the
‘ King. — I ſhall never fail to preſs
‘ the Diſpatch of ſuch Matters as are com-
‘ mitted to my Care, whatever the Succeſs
‘ may be. Mr. PRIOR will leave this
‘ Place on *Monday* next, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Great Part of the Earl of *Manchester*'s
Buſineſs in *France*, was to preſent Me-
morials concerning Injuries received: Of
what kind they were, we may in ſome
meaſure learn from the following Ex-
tract.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Lee, Aug. 25. 1699.

‘ I HAVE more than once troubled
‘ your Excellency with Complaints of
‘ Hardſhips ſuſtained by his Maſteſty's
‘ Subjects

The HISTORY of

' Subjects in *France*, upon account of
 ' their being Protestants. But his Ma-
 ' jesty has commanded me at present to
 ' inform your Lordship of a very great
 ' Violence offered to an *English* Ship at
 ' Sea, coming from a Foreign Part, which
 ' has been attack'd by one of *France*, and
 ' the Passengers taken out, contrary to the
 ' Treaties between the two Crowns for
 ' the Freedom of Trade and Navigation,
 ' and the Law of Nations. I need not
 ' further open this Affair to your Lord-
 ' ship, but refer you to the enclosed Pa-
 ' pers, upon which your Lordship is to
 ' form a Complaint, and to present a Me-
 ' morial to the *French* Court. Mr. PRIOR
 ' will have put into your Lordship's Hands
 ' the Business of Messieurs *de la Forest* and
 ' *de Scheus*, wherein your Lordship's good
 ' Offices will be wanting, according to
 ' the Directions already given". I am,

W. BLATHWAYT.

We do not find that the Earl of *Man-*
chester's Remonstrances were always ef-
 fectual at the *French* Court, though his
 Person seemed to be very acceptable. He
 had before * complained to the Earl of
Jersey, that he ' feared he should do but

* Letter of Aug. 19.

‘ little, especially in Matters that relate to
‘ the *French* Refugees, whatever Promises
‘ had been made to my Lord *Portland*,
‘ or the Earl of *Jersey* himself”. Of this
he gives an Instance in the Answer of
Messieurs de la Forest and *Scheus* above-
mentioned; whose Case, however, is not
at large recited. And now, as to the other
Business about which Mr. *Blathwayt* writes,
at King WILLIAM’s express Command,
his Lordship says in another Letter *, That
‘ till he has more particular Informations
‘ about the Matter, he cannot think it
‘ proper to make his Complaint; for it is
‘ easy to foresee, that this Court will give
‘ him but little Satisfaction upon it, if he
‘ cannot tell whom to charge with the
‘ Fault. He therefore desires my Lord
‘ *Jersey* to send him what farther Disco-
‘ veries he can make about it, that the
‘ Matter may be as clear as possible”. Ac-
cordingly my Lord *Jersey* sent him over
a ‘ Paper, which had been presented to
‘ the Lords Justices, who look’d upon it
‘ as a Thing of so extraordinary a Na-
‘ ture, that they thought fit to lay it be-
‘ fore the King for his particular Direc-
‘ tions”. But the King of *France* was
inflexible with regard to his Protestant
Subjects, of which Sort it appears were

* Sept. 5.

the Passengers, twelve in Number, who were taken out of an *English* Vessel. That Monarch, whatever has been said to his Advantage, was in reality a bigotted Enthusiast, very ignorant of the Laws of Nature and Nations; his whole Reign, with regard to his Subjects, being a continued Violation of the former, and with regard to his Neighbours, of the latter. But we cannot give a better Idea of this Part of his Character, than by inserting his Excellency's Words in another Letter to Lord *Jersey*, who had before writ to him about the Affair therein mentioned.

My Lord,

Paris, Sept. 2, 1699.

‘ I DID observe your Lordship’s Di-
 ‘ rections, and had an Audience fix’d
 ‘ before I spoke to Monsieur *de Torcy*;
 ‘ tho’ when I acquainted him with the
 ‘ Nature of what I was to say, I found
 ‘ little Hopes of Success. He would have
 ‘ had me delay it for some Time, and
 ‘ till I had inform’d myself how much
 ‘ the Pretensions of Mademoiselle *Malause*
 ‘ amounted to; which I declined, say-
 ‘ ing, that what I was to ask of his Ma-
 ‘ jesty was a Favour, and in such a Case
 ‘ the Sum was not to be considered.
 ‘ Accordingly I had my Audience, and I
 ‘ must say, the King expressed himself
 ‘ in

' in all the obliging Terms that could be
 ' used in a Refusal. He said, He was ex-
 ' tremely troubled, whenever the King of
 ' *England* asked any Thing that he could
 ' not grant, and that he hoped he should
 ' not be put upon these Difficulties for the
 ' future. I did argue the Case as much
 ' as it was proper, letting him know that
 ' the King had that Consideration for her
 ' and her Family, that he hoped his Ma-
 ' jesty would oblige him in it, and dis-
 ' tinguish her, she having had Leave to
 ' go out of *France*; pressing this as far as
 ' was possible. He was pleased to answer,
 ' That he knew very well all that could be
 ' said upon this Subject; that he had made
 ' it a Rule, which he could not but observe,
 ' that if he granted it, he must take from
 ' one to give to the other; and that the
 ' better Way was not to amuse me with
 ' Hopes, since his Resolution was never
 ' to grant any thing of this Nature: But
 ' that he hoped the King would be con-
 ' vinced of his Readiness to comply with
 ' him in Matters of greater Consequence.
 ' I hope my Lord *Feversham* will believe
 ' I have done all I could out of Respect
 ' for him; though it is not an agreeable
 ' Subject to speak to, when one is morally
 ' satisfied to be denied. I must desire
 ' your Lordship will be so kind as to pre-
 ' vent, as much as you can, any Demands

' in

The HISTORY of

‘ in Relation to the *French* Refugees; for
 ‘ I am confident they design to weary us
 ‘ out at last by their Refusals, and that it
 ‘ is not, in my poor Opinion, much for
 ‘ the King’s Honour. I intend to press
 ‘ the Case of Messieurs *de la Forest* and
 ‘ *de Scheus*, it being, as I take it, already
 ‘ granted; though I believe they will at
 ‘ last evade it.——

I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Thus we see King WILLIAM could not obtain any Thing from the *French* Court by Remonstrances, which he had neglected to stipulate in the Treaty of *Ryswick*: But this will not be wondered at, when we reflect how short a Time that Treaty itself was found binding, in its most material Articles. We have another Example of the Neglect shewn to the *British* Minister’s Instances, in a Letter dated only a Week after the foregoing.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Sept. 9. 1699.

‘ I HAVE received your Lordship’s
 ‘ Letter of the 24th past, with the
 ‘ enclosed Papers, relating to the *English*
 ‘ Goods

‘ Goods seized by *Du Bart*, on board
 ‘ some *Dantzick* Ships, and will present
 ‘ another Memorial about that Affair, if
 ‘ your Lordship pleases; tho’ I cannot
 ‘ expect any good Effect from it, because
 ‘ they gave a positive Denial to Mr. PRIOR,
 ‘ as I find by Mons. *Torcy*’s Answer to
 ‘ his Demands upon that Head, entered
 ‘ into the Book of Memorials. The Words
 ‘ are these, *That the Ships upon which*
 ‘ *these Goods were taken are Dantzickers;*
 ‘ *that Oath is made, that the Goods, which*
 ‘ *the English reclaimed, belonged likewise*
 ‘ *to Merchants at Dantzick; that the*
 ‘ *French hold it therefore for good Prize,*
 ‘ *and consequently will not restore it, but*
 ‘ *think the English must have Recourse to*
 ‘ *Dantzick for Reparation of the Losses,*
 ‘ *which they suffer in this Affair.* —

I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Mr. PRIOR being arrived at *Loo*, where King WILLIAM then kept his Court, he wrote the following Letter from thence to the Earl of *Manchester* at *Paris*, whom he had lately left.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Loo, Sept. 11. 1699.

‘ I DID not trouble you by last Post,
 ‘ not being then able to give a very
 ‘ good Account of myself; which I can
 ‘ do now, having had the Honour of a
 ‘ very long and particular Audience of his
 ‘ Majesty this Morning; the Effect of
 ‘ which is, that he knows all I was able
 ‘ to inform him of, in relation to the
 ‘ present State of our Affairs in the King-
 ‘ dom where you are, and that I am
 ‘ ordered to go from hence to-morrow
 ‘ Morning for the *Hague*, to receive what
 ‘ Orders his Majesty may send me, and
 ‘ to wait there till his farther Pleasure be
 ‘ known.

‘ Your Excellency sees by the inclosed
 ‘ Memoir, the Case of one *Girard*, a
 ‘ Minister of *Neufchattel*, whom his most
 ‘ Christian Majesty will protect against
 ‘ what Madame *de Nemours*, the lawful
 ‘ Sovereign of the Place, designs to do in
 ‘ relation to her own Subject. His Ma-
 ‘ jesty commands me to intimate to your
 ‘ Excellency, That it is his Pleasure, that
 ‘ you concert with Monsieur *Friebergen*
 ‘ upon this Subject, and use your best En-
 ‘ deavours with the Court of *France*, that
 ‘ they

‘ they should let the Matter be examined
 ‘ and decided by its competent Judges,
 ‘ according to the Sense of the inclosed
 ‘ Memoir, of which Monsieur *Friebergen*
 ‘ has likewise a Copy.

‘ You will have heard of the King of
 ‘ *Denmark's* Death before this reaches you;
 ‘ so that as to public News I shall not
 ‘ trouble you.

‘ As to more private Affairs, *Obrian* is
 ‘ taken up at *Brussels*; so your Excellency
 ‘ must get *Bayly* to tell you the Particu-
 ‘ lars of what he knows relating to that
 ‘ Man, and what he thinks would be best
 ‘ to do, that his being taken up may be
 ‘ serviceable to his Majesty's Interests.

‘ I write this Letter inclosed to *Bayly*
 ‘ upon this Head: The Account he will
 ‘ give your Excellency you will be pleased
 ‘ to send directly to Mr. *Blathwayt*.

‘ I take this Opportunity, my Lord, to
 ‘ repeat my Thanks to you for your Fa-
 ‘ vours to me while I staid with you at
 ‘ *Paris*; and to assure your Excellency,
 ‘ that in all Places and Stations I continue
 ‘ with great Respect, &c.’

M. PRIOR.

Mr. PRIOR, at this Time, was con-
 cerned in the most secret Affairs, and
 supposed to know as much of them as any

Man whatsoever. He is continually spoken of with the utmost Confidence in the Ministerial Letters, and seems to have been very much relied on. We have the following Paragraph in an inclosed Paper from Lord *Manchester* to Lord *Jersey*, dated *Sept. 23, 1699*.

‘ I am informed that one Mr. *Mennis*,
 ‘ or *Minnis*, a *Scotchman*, embarked at
 ‘ *Calais* for *Dover* the Beginning of this
 ‘ Month. The best Account I can get
 ‘ of him at present is, That he has fol-
 ‘ lowed the late King’s Fortune ever since
 ‘ the Revolution, and being a Man of
 ‘ Letters, and of Intrigue, found Means
 ‘ to insinuate himself into Lord *Middle-*
 ‘ *ton*’s Favour, who employed him in forg-
 ‘ ing Letters from the Jacobite Party in
 ‘ *Scotland* to the late King, complaining
 ‘ of Lord *Melford*, and desiring he might
 ‘ be removed from the Ministry, and
 ‘ Lord *Middleton* appointed to carry on
 ‘ the Correspondence with them. This
 ‘ Forging, it seems, was discovered by
 ‘ *Melford*, who thereupon ruin’d him
 ‘ at *St. Germain*s; since which Time he
 ‘ has continued in Disgrace and Want,
 ‘ which I am told are the chief Motives
 ‘ that induce him to venture home. Mr.
 ‘ PRIOR can give some Account of him,
 ‘ and

‘ and I suppose * Mr. Macky too, since
‘ he embarked in the Packet-Boat at
‘ Dover.’

Concerning *Obrian*, mentioned in Mr.
PRIOR's Letter, Mr. *Hill* wrote thus from
Brussels, to Lord *Manchester*.

‘ I came hither about six Days ago, in
‘ order to send away to a safer Place one
‘ *Obrian*, an *Irishman*, who was lately
‘ come from *Paris*, and had been noted
‘ as a dangerous Man. I sent him to
‘ *Breda*, and there I believe he is in good
‘ Hands. I would now beg of your Lord-
‘ ship to let some Enquiry be made about
‘ him, that we may know what he can
‘ discover at least, if he can be brought
‘ to Confession. I believe this is the Man
‘ who carried off *Goodman*, and I believe
‘ he went also from *England* with Sir
‘ *George Berkeley*.’——

In answer to these two Requests, Lord
Manchester inclosed the following Paper in
a Letter to Lord *Jersy*, dated Oct. 5. 1669.

* This Mr. *Macky* was at that Time Director of the
Packet-Boats between *Dover* and *France*. He wrote, Cha-
racters of the *English* and *Scots* Nobility, &c. to be found
in a Book intituled, *Memoirs of Secret Services*.

The HISTORY of

‘ The best Account I can learn of *Obrian*, is what he said of himself when
 ‘ he first came over, *viz.* That he was
 ‘ always a great Acquaintance of *Goodman*; that they had often robbed upon
 ‘ the Highway; that when he received
 ‘ the News of his being an Evidence, he
 ‘ was in Custody of a Messenger; that he
 ‘ was engaged with him in the Assassination, though none of the others knew
 ‘ of it, which made him resolve to get
 ‘ *Goodman* out of the Way; so employ-
 ‘ ing some Friends, he soon obtained his
 ‘ Liberty. Colonel *Ingram* came to him,
 ‘ and told him, that his Friend would
 ‘ ruin Lord *Aylesbury* and Lord *Montgo-*
 ‘ *mery*, if not prevented; and that those
 ‘ Lords would not spare any Money to
 ‘ persuade *Goodman* to go to *France*, or
 ‘ to have him carried away by Force.
 ‘ This *Obrian* undertook, and *Ingram*
 ‘ procured a Settlement of 500 *l. per Ann.*
 ‘ from the two Lords, besides 500 *l.* in
 ‘ Money. That with some Difficulty
 ‘ *Obrian* and *Ingram* met *Goodman* at
 ‘ the *Dog* in *Drury-Lane*, where with
 ‘ fair Words, but more out of Fear, he
 ‘ consented to go, and *Obrian* never left
 ‘ him afterwards till he brought him to
 ‘ *St. Germain*s, where he was well re-
 ‘ ceived: But having spent their Money,
 ‘ and *Goodman* not finding any Thing
 ‘ would

‘ would be done for him, he was dissatisfied; and lest, when my Lord *Portland* came, he might go to his House for Protection, he was secured, and was never heard of since. This *Obrian* soon after turned his Religion, and so procured a small Pension. Upon the Peace, Colonel *Ingram* was obliged to leave *England*, by reason of the late Act of Parliament, and *Obrian* complained to King JAMES that he kept their Money, which he denied: But soon after, the said Lords remitted 250*l.* which King JAMES ordered to be divided between *Obrian* and *Goodman's* Woman, and so Matters continued till he went to *Brussels* to Lord *Aylesbury*. It is thought, that if he believed he should not be soon released, he would discover all he knows, and he is fully acquainted with the Proceedings of most Lords.

‘ As for the Persons in Custody, I cannot learn any Thing but what Mr. PRIOR knows. They are no longer in Pain for them at *St. Germain's*, since Lord *Melford* writes from *Flanders*, that there is no Evidence against them.”——

The Affair of Monsieur *Girard*, the Minister of *Neufchattel*, mentioned in Mr. PRIOR's Letter, was represented to the French Ministry by M. *Friebergen*, the

The HISTORY of

Dutch Ambassador, my Lord *Manchester* being indisposed: But the Representation had no Effect, the King of *France* persisting in his Resolution of protecting the Minister, in Defiance of the Treaty of *Ryswick*.

Before Mr. PRIOR removed from *Holland*, he wrote Lord *Manchester* the following Letter.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hague, Oct. 16, 1699.

I HAVE the Honour of your Excellency's Letters, that of the 5th, which came strait hither, and that of the 30th past, by way of *England*, and returned thence. I understand by the Gentleman, nothing can be done so soon as we wish: But as I have spoken to the Persons concerned here, in a little time I shall be able to give him a better Answer than I can at present. It is thought proper that *Bayly* be continued *in statu quo*. Mr. *Yard* has let my Lord *Jersey* know what he has done in relation to the Advices which *Couchman* brought. This, at present, my Lord, is all I can say upon this Subject in general; as soon as we can get together in *England*, I hope to be more particular
upon

‘ upon it, and more satisfactory to the Gen-
‘ tlemen concerned.

‘ We expect the King here to-morrow
‘ Night for certain, and about *Saturday*
‘ following we shall be wishing the Wind
‘ fair. *Obrian* is by this Time on board,
‘ in order to his going for *England*. The
‘ other Persons seized this Summer, about
‘ *Loo*, are still in Custody at *Arnheim*.

‘ I trouble Mr. *Stanyan* with what is
‘ less material, and detain your Excellency
‘ no longer than to repeat to you the Af-
‘ surances of my being, with Zeal and
‘ Respect,’

M. PRIOR.

Lord *Jersey* having been in *Holland* with
his Majesty at the End of the Season, he
received at his Return a Letter from Lord
Manchester, of which we shall give an
Extract.

My Lord,

Paris, Oct. 29, 1699.

‘ I Suppose this will find your Lordship
‘ safely arrived in *England*, and I hope
‘ you received mine of the 5th Instant in
‘ *Holland*, wherein I gave your Lordship
‘ the fullest Account I could get of *Obrian*.

‘ I am to acquaint your Lordship, that
‘ *Bryerly*, one of the Assassimators, who
‘ had formerly some Thoughts of going
‘ into

' into *England*, and discovering what he
 ' he knew, in Hopes of obtaining his Par-
 ' don, and getting a Recompence, conti-
 ' nues still in great Necessity, and is said
 ' to be in the same Resolution. Some
 ' Steps were made by Mr. PRIOR in that
 ' Matter, when he was here, of which
 ' he can inform your Lordship; and in
 ' case it may be judged for his Majesty's
 ' Service to have him come over I am
 ' sure the Promise of a Pardon and some
 ' Reward will tempt him. I therefore
 ' desire your Lordship would send me his
 ' Majesty's Directions thereupon, which
 ' I shall contrive to perform in the safest
 ' Manner for him, and the Person who
 ' is to go between us.'

MANCHESTER.

Two Days after his Lordship wrote a Letter to Mr. PRIOR, which is the first that has been preserved, though doubtless many preceded it.

*S I R,**Paris, Oct. 31, 1699.*

' I SHALL now begin to trouble you
 ' often, believing you are settled in the
 ' Office, which will be another Sort of
 ' Life than that in *France*; but when I
 ' consider you have so worthy a Person,
 ' and

‘ and so good a Friend to act under, I
 ‘ then think nothing can stand in Com-
 ‘ petition with it. I shall be every Day
 ‘ more sensible of the Loss of you here,
 ‘ which I hope you will make up to me,
 ‘ by letting me hear often from you. I
 ‘ have acquainted my Lord *Jersey* with
 ‘ what * passed in relation to me and the
 ‘ *Portugal* Ambassador in the Apartment
 ‘ of Monsieur *de Torcy*. He is going a-
 ‘ way, else it would be impossible but
 ‘ there must be farther Disputes of that
 ‘ Nature. The first Opportunity I have,
 ‘ I shall certainly return his Rudeness.
 ‘ When you can do it conveniently, put
 ‘ my Lord *Jersey* in mind of what we
 ‘ have often discoursed about, in relation
 ‘ to the Affairs of *France*, and what he
 ‘ was so kind as to say he would prevent,
 ‘ if possible, when I had the Honour of
 ‘ seeing him last. You can easily imagine
 ‘ I shall not be able to obtain any Thing
 ‘ of this Court, if Matters of Moment
 ‘ must be only transacted by Monsieur *de*
 ‘ *Tallard*: Not that I am desirous of
 ‘ knowing more than what he would think
 ‘ proper, in the Post I am in. I need not
 ‘ tell you that as a great Expence is ne-
 ‘ cessary here, so an Esteem for the Per-

* The Affront his Lordship mentions, was the Ambaf-
 sadors running in before him, contrary to Form, at the
French Minister's.

The HISTORY of

‘ son is as much ; and I flatter myself I
 ‘ shall not forfeit it, unless this Court finds
 ‘ I am only here to make a Show.

‘ Monsieur *de Tallard* is daily expected,
 ‘ and it may be will still make his Com-
 ‘ plaints, as formerly, of the Delays he
 ‘ meets with in *England*. If so, I can
 ‘ now answer him much better, by what
 ‘ I have seen since my coming here.

‘ The Day of Parade is near, and, with
 ‘ the Help of the Advice you give me,
 ‘ it will go well. The Calash is done,
 ‘ and I like it ; though I assure you the
 ‘ Coaches I brought from *England* do ex-
 ‘ ceed it in Gilding, Painting, and Carving.
 ‘ All who see it do own, and the *French*
 ‘ confess, they cannot come up to our
 ‘ Gilding, though they pretend theirs will
 ‘ last longer. I wish you was to be here
 ‘ for a few Days. The best Apartment
 ‘ is now *a la Francoise* ; Velvet and Da-
 ‘ mask Chairs with Gold Galoon, the
 ‘ Frames gilded, Marble Tables, with
 ‘ large Looking-Glasses, &c. I found it
 ‘ was absolutely necessary, and when I
 ‘ was doing it, I would do it well. The
 ‘ Chapel, which I have enlarged into
 ‘ the Garden, looks very handsome,

‘ I cannot finish this, without my Wishes
 ‘ that you may succeed in all Things for
 ‘ your Advantage. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER,

Immediately

Immediately after receiving this Letter, Mr. PRIOR was sent over to Lord *Manchester* at *Paris*. We have a short Letter from Lord *Fersey*, which gives some Idea of the Message he was sent on, and shews the great Credit he was in with the then Ministry.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Oct. 23. 1699. O.S.

‘ I HAVE received your Lordship’s
‘ Letter of the 28th of *October*. Be-
‘ fore you receive this, Mr. PRIOR will
‘ be with you. It is his Majesty’s Desire
‘ that you discourse the Business of the
‘ Partition Treaty with Mr. PRIOR, who
‘ has already Knowledge of it; and ac-
‘ cording to the Account your Lordship
‘ gives next of it, you shall receive his
‘ Majesty’s farther Directions. What else
‘ your Letters contain, I must beg Leave
‘ to put off the answering it to another
‘ Time. I am, &c.

J E R S E Y.

Mr. PRIOR being arrived, Lord *Manchester* gave an account of it to Lord *Fersey*, in a Letter dated *Nov. 6, 1699*, which begins thus.

My

My Lord,

‘ **M**R. PRIOR informed your Lord-
 ‘ ship, by *Wednesday’s* Post, of
 ‘ his Arrival here. He having explained
 ‘ to me the Subject upon which he was
 ‘ sent, I wrote to Monsieur *de Torcy*, in
 ‘ order to procure an Audience, &c.”—

This Journey of Mr. PRIOR’s, tho’ he merrily speaks of it himself as if he was only sent of a Courier’s Errand, was a Matter of too much Importance to be passed over privately. The *English* Ambassador informs his Friend the Secretary, in another Letter dated *Nov. 11.* ‘ That he
 ‘ thought proper to tell Monsieur *de Torcy*,
 ‘ that Mr. PRIOR was there, since it was
 ‘ impossible but that he should have heard
 ‘ it’; and his Lordship imagined the *French* Minister ‘ might have thought that
 ‘ he was not fair with him, if he had
 ‘ concealed it’. In the same Letter Lord *Manchester* mentioned his having applied about bringing the Treaty of *Spain* to a happy Conclusion, and that he was promised an Audience on that Affair: Also, that he had got M. *Friebergen* to go to the *Portugal* Ambassador, for an Explanation of his late Proceeding. That Ambassador, after a great deal of Discourse,
 said

said that he had not heard of any Rule established amongst Ambassadors in their going to Monsieur *de Torcy*; that he was in Haste when he went in, and did not intend any Affront.

Mr. PRIOR's Stay at *Paris* was very short. In a few Days after Lord *Manchester*'s Writing, he received two Letters, one from the Earl of *Jersey*, and another from his poetical Friend. Lord *Jersey*'s has the following Postscript.

‘ I have received your Lordship's of
‘ Nov. 11. I told the King the Excuses
‘ the *Portugal* Ambassador made you,
‘ which his Majesty seemed satisfied with.
‘ Mr. PRIOR is come; but till Monsieur
‘ *Tallard* comes, you will have no further
‘ Direction about the *Spanish* Affair.’

Mr. PRIOR's Letter we shall insert at large; as indeed nothing ought to be suppressed that came from him.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Lond. Nov. 3^d. 1699.

‘ I Arrived here on *Friday* Night, and
‘ every Body confesses that only *Roger*
‘ is fitter than I to be sent Express: On
‘ *Saturday* Morning my Lord *Jersey* car-
‘ ried

' ried me to the King. I first read to his
 ' Majesty what your Lordship said to
 ' the King of *France*, and what the
 ' King answered thereupon ; and then I
 ' explained to his Majesty the Substance
 ' of the whole that had pass'd during my
 ' being in *France*. His Majesty is satisf-
 ' fied with every Step your Excellency
 ' made ; and, in one Word, we did as
 ' we ought to do. His Majesty asked
 ' me a great many Questions about your
 ' Entry. You will easily believe I was
 ' glad, on that Occasion, to do you Jus-
 ' tice. His Majesty asked me about the
 ' Rank which Monsieur *de Torcy's* Coach
 ' had ; and in all this Affair, I can assure
 ' your Excellency, he is very well satis-
 ' fied. I have seen as well *Charles* as
 ' *James Erby*, and *Christopher Montague*.
 ' I have been asked ten thousand Questions,
 ' and gave them the News of my Lord
 ' *Mandevil's* being to arrive at *Paris* within
 ' these six Months ; for which we wish
 ' all very heartily. I contracted a Cold
 ' in the Voyage, and wisely increased it,
 ' by running about these two Days. I
 ' am blooded, and keep my Chamber
 ' to-day, which is the Reason of my
 ' using another Hand : I hope your Ex-
 ' cellency will excuse it. The King dined
 ' to-day with my Lord *Rocheſter*, at his
 ' House near *Richmond* ; my Lord *Jersey*
 ' is

‘ is gone to dine with him. Whig and
 ‘ Tory are, as of old, implacable. Dr.
 ‘ *D’Avenant* is coming out with another
 ‘ Book, in which he attacks the Grants;
 ‘ and is (as I am told) very scurrilous a-
 ‘ gainst my Lord Chancellor, and our
 ‘ dear Friend * *Charles*. This, I think, is
 ‘ all the News I have known since my
 ‘ Arrival. I have only to add my great
 ‘ Thanks to your Excellency for your
 ‘ Hospitality and Kindness to me in
 ‘ *France*, and wish you Success in every
 ‘ Thing there, with all possible Zeal and
 ‘ Sincerity, I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

The Account of what passed at Lord *Manchester*’s Audience, which Mr. PRIOR says he read to his Majesty, is preserved entire in *Cole’s Memoirs*, to which I am indebted for many Particulars in this Part of our History. We have it there both in *French* and *English*; but the latter is sufficient for our Purpose.

‘ Sunday the 15th of November, his Excellency had an Audience of the King at *Versailles*: The Substance of which is as follows.’

* Afterwards Lords *Halifax*.

His Excellency's Speech.

S I R,

Lord Man-
chester's
Audience.

‘ THE King my Master having found
 ‘ that Monsieur *de Tallard* was, by
 ‘ his Instructions, obliged to quit *Holland*
 ‘ before he signed the Treaty which was
 ‘ projected with your Majesty, relating to
 ‘ the Succession of *Spain*; His Majesty has
 ‘ ordered me to desire this private Audi-
 ‘ ence, to assure you, Sir, that the King
 ‘ continues in the same Sentiments he was
 ‘ always of, in regard to that Treaty.
 ‘ Your Majesty knows very well the good
 ‘ Offices employ’d by the King my Mas-
 ‘ ter, to make the Imperialists enter into
 ‘ it. He has also done all he could to
 ‘ make the States like it. His Majesty
 ‘ continues to act as he did. As to what con-
 ‘ cerns the King’s signing it, he caused
 ‘ the Earl of *Jersey* to come into *Holland*
 ‘ expressly for this End; and I doubt not
 ‘ but the Count *de Tallard* will have told
 ‘ your Majesty, how often the King my
 ‘ Master has offered himself to sign it,
 ‘ to shew that he was ready to do all that
 ‘ depended upon him.

‘ Your Majesty will give me Leave to
 ‘ be a little long, in telling you how this
 ‘ Affair has passed; that so your Majesty
 ‘ may

‘ deavour to remove all Obstacles, that so
 ‘ the Project of the Treaty may have its
 ‘ Effect.

The French KING's Answer.

‘ **I** OWN I was a little surprized that
 ‘ the Affair was not finished at the
 ‘ Expiration of the Time, and before the
 ‘ King your Master sat out for *England*.
 ‘ I am satisfied with the Assurances which
 ‘ you now give me from him, that he
 ‘ continues still in the same Intention ; and
 ‘ I hope he will always continue to con-
 ‘ tribute all he can with the States. As
 ‘ for me, I am still of the same Mind,
 ‘ and I act with the same Sincerity. I
 ‘ will soon send *Monfieur de Tallard* with
 ‘ the necessary Instructions.

Lord *Manchester* thus continues the Ac-
 count of what followed. ‘ When I said,
 ‘ That the Reason the States of *Holland*
 ‘ were not sooner acquainted with it, was,
 ‘ that it could not be proposed to them,
 ‘ till it was known whether the Imperial-
 ‘ ists would come in or no: The King
 ‘ said, with Warmth, They have had
 ‘ Time enough given them, and even too
 ‘ much. As to Count *Tallard's* having
 ‘ Orders to come away, the King took
 ‘ no Notice of it, nor that he had been
 ‘ in-

informed of every Step. Upon my say-
 ing, Monsieur *de Tallard* has been in-
 formed of all that has been done in this
 Affair, and has even seen all the Letters
 which Monsieur *Hop* wrote to the Pen-
 sionary; and it being first proposed to
 the Province of *Holland*, it seemed that
 he was satisfied in those Points: I took
 Occasion to see if Monsieur *de Bonrepos*
 had any Orders; saying, That the King
 my Master was desirous that your Ma-
 jesty might be informed by Monsieur *de*
Tallard, or Monsieur *de Bonrepos*, of all
 that passes; and even the States will al-
 ways have a great regard for all that
 comes from your Majesty. The King
 answered, In this Affair I confided only
 in Monsieur *de Tallard*; and I know
 very well that the King your Master has
 more Credit in *Holland* than I on this
 Occasion. When I said, That the King
 had recommended it to the Care of the
 Pensionary, and that we hoped the Dif-
 ficulties were such as might be surmount-
 ed: The King answered, That he hoped
 it also; and that he imagined Somebody
 should come from the States into *England*,
 and that the Treaty would be signed
 there. The King added, I have it, you
 know, under the Hands of the King
 your Master, as he has it under mine.
 Then I said, I have also, Sir, particular

‘ Orders to inform your Majesty from the
 ‘ King, in what Manner he has kept his
 ‘ Word ; and that, as he has acted on this
 ‘ Occasion with an open Heart, and all
 ‘ possible Sincerity ; so he will continue
 ‘ to act on all other Occasions, that may
 ‘ contribute to the strengthening his Friend-
 ‘ ship and good Correspondence with your
 ‘ Majesty. The King answered, You may
 ‘ assure the King your Master that I will
 ‘ do the same.”

Mr. PRIOR returned on the 18th of *November* 1699, N. S. with this Account of the private Audience to *London*. His Lordship’s public Audience was immediately after. He writes thus the Day before Mr. PRIOR sat out from *Paris*, and in all Probability by him.

To the Earl of JERSEY.

My Lord,

Paris, Nov. 17, 1699.

‘ **I** Suppose your Lordship will easily
 ‘ believe I have but little Time to
 ‘ write, when you know I am in the
 ‘ *Hôtel des Ambassadeurs*, and am to have
 ‘ to-morrow my Audience at *Versailles*.
 ‘ Neither do I think it proper to trouble
 ‘ your Lordship with an Account of what
 ‘ has been done in Obedience to his Ma-
 ‘ jesty’s

‘ jeſty’s Command, ſince Mr. PRIOR is
‘ fully inform’d of all Proceedings, and
‘ what paſſed in my private Audience.—
‘ I ſhall always diſcharge his Maſteſty’s
‘ Orders with all the Secrecy and Care ima-
‘ ginable; and I am apt to think this Oc-
‘ caſion will make Monſieur *de Tallard*
‘ take care how he behaves himſelf; for
‘ he was not very eaſy when he found Mr.
‘ PRIOR was come, and that I was to have
‘ an Audience.’ I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

His Lordſhip, as he writes in another Letter to the Earl of *Jerſey*, went to *Verſailles*, and had his Audience, the ſame Day that Mr. PRIOR left *Paris*. He then found, that what he had diſcourſed in private to the King had its deſired Effect; for Monſieur *Tallard*, who had been called home, was ordered to return to *England* the next Week. ‘ On the
‘ whole, ſays his Excellency, I find the
‘ Court impatient * till it is done, by M.
‘ *de Torcy*’s ſaying, no Time was to be
‘ loſt; that the King of *Spain*’s Life was
‘ very uncertain, and that by the laſt Ac-
‘ count they had heard he was ill again.’ He adds, ‘ I hope his Maſteſty approves of

* Till the Treaty is ſigned.

‘ the Account Mr. PRIOR will have given:
 ‘ I shall continue to obey your Lordship’s
 ‘ Orders, as becomes, &c.’ —

Soon after, he wrote the following.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, Nov. 25. 1699.

‘ **I** SEND you the enclosed, which I
 ‘ took the Liberty to open, not know-
 ‘ ing but there might be some Directions
 ‘ for me, by reason I had none by that
 ‘ Post from my Lord *Jersy* nor Mr. *Yard.*
 ‘ I suppose you will easily excuse it. I de-
 ‘ sire you will let my Lord know, that I
 ‘ have nothing at present to trouble him
 ‘ with. I am impatient to know how his
 ‘ Majesty approves of our Proceedings;
 ‘ and I must put you in mind of the Ca-
 ‘ talogue of Books, and also what Me-
 ‘ thod I must take about the ninety *Louis*
 ‘ that you had a Note of; for I intend
 ‘ soon to send the Account of my Extra-
 ‘ ordinaries. I still continue to make pub-
 ‘ lic Discourses here, having had my Au-
 ‘ dience of Madame last *Sunday.* I went
 ‘ with five Coaches and all the *English*
 ‘ Gentlemen, and twenty-four Men in
 ‘ Livery, each of them carrying a white
 ‘ Flambeau. I am glad I am coming to a
 ‘ Con-

Conclusion of these Vanities, though I
 am fatisfied it does Service here, and
 makes some very uneasy. I am told
 that one *Ogilby* went from hence on *Sun-*
day last to *St. Valery*, in order to em-
 bark for *England*: That he was to ad-
 dress himself to my Lord *Drummond*
 upon his Arrival at *London*; and after
 some Stay there, to go to Duke *H—*
 with Messages, if not Letters, from the
 Court of *St. Germans*. It is thought it
 might be for his Majesty's Service to have
 him seized; but I cannot give any parti-
 cular Directions where he is to be found.
 The likeliest Way is by watching my
 Lord *Drummond*. He has been often
 employed between *England* and *France*
 in the late War; so that I presume Mat-
 ter enough may be found against him.
 You will acquaint my Lord *Jersey* of
 this; which will oblige, &c.'

MANCHESTER.

This was followed by another in about a Fortnight after.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, Dec. 8, 1699.

‘ I COULD wish this Court was so well
 ‘ inclined as to grant any Favour in
 ‘ relation to the *French* Protestants: But
 ‘ at present I cannot see any Inclination;
 ‘ neither can I hope ever to have such Cre-
 ‘ dit with Monsieur *de Torcy*, as on my
 ‘ own Account to persuade him: If at
 ‘ any Time I see a Probability, I shall
 ‘ not fail to act as is desired. I have not
 ‘ yet made all my Visits of Ceremony;
 ‘ and this Day I am going to the Arsenal.
 ‘ You will be so kind as to make my Ex-
 ‘ cuse to Lord *Jersy*, having nothing at
 ‘ present to acquaint him with, only that
 ‘ King JAMES continues still ill. His Dis-
 ‘ temper is Boils in his Backside. I do
 ‘ not hear there is much Danger, unless
 ‘ it should turn to a Fistula. In a little
 ‘ Time you shall hear more. Monsieur
 ‘ *de Tallard* could not be so soon with you
 ‘ as he intended, because the Wind con-
 ‘ tinued some Days against him, and ob-
 ‘ liged him to stay at *Calais*. I am glad
 ‘ to hear our Proceedings were approved
 ‘ of, and I am impatient to know the
 ‘ Success of that Matter; though it may
 ‘ be

' be I shall hear it first from Monsieur de
' Torcy. I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

' In a Letter by the same Post, to the
Right Honourable *Charles Montague*, Esq;
his Lordship says,

S I R,

' **M**R. PRIOR's coming here, and
' the private Audience I had of the
' King the Day of my Entry, occasioned
' much Discourse, and did me Service
' with the Ministers; for now they see
' the King does not rely on Monsieur de
' Tallard. — King JAMES, upon Mr.
' PRIOR's coming hither, believed I was
' to be recalled, and he to be left here;
' which for some Time, gave him great
' Satisfaction. It is not agreeable to them
' to see me live in such a Manner, that
' none of the *English* come to *Paris* but
' they address themselves to me, &c.'

MANCHESTER.

We see here what Reputation our Poet
was in, that King JAMES should suspect
his being left Ambassador.

On

On the 30th of November, O.S. Mr. PRIOR wrote the following to Lord Manchester.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Nov. 30,
Dec. 10, 1699.

MY Indisposition has been such,
and I have had so little worth
troubling you with for these two Posts,
that I may easily be excused for not hav-
ing writ. My Lord Jersey has for these
fix Days had a Fit of the Gout, accom-
panied with a Fever, which has hardly
let him stir out of his Bed, and detains
him at present in a Couch very near it.
This is but too legitimate an Excuse,
my Lord, for his not writing to you to-
night. Mr. Yard tells you the public
News, That a Supply was voted to-day;
which I think to be the best Part of it:
For the rest, Factions and Reflections
go on and prosper as formerly. My
Lord Chancellor is the Man aimed at,
and some Grants he enjoys are the visi-
ble Pretext. The King goes to-morrow
to Hampton-Court, till Saturday Night.
Macky waits to know who is to pay
Roger the Express's Passage: Your Ex-
cellency will pay it, and it is to be al-
lowed in your Extraordinaries. For the
ninety Pounds expended, I have not had
an

‘ an Opportunity of mentioning it, as
 ‘ largely as I would, to Lord *Jersey*. *Bayley*
 ‘ is to do whatever he can, to bring over
 ‘ *la Personne dont il s’agit*, and your Lord-
 ‘ ship is to give him all Encouragement
 ‘ and Assistance: Nothing can be properer
 ‘ than the Method we agreed on at *Paris*.
 ‘ The *Montagues* are all well; which is
 ‘ all I have to add to the great Respect,
 ‘ with which I am ever, &c.’

PRIOR.

‘ P. S. I am to acknowledge the Re-
 ‘ ceipt of the last Letter with which your
 ‘ Excellency honoured me. This Moment
 ‘ Mr. Powis comes in to me. He does
 ‘ not write to your Excellency to-night,
 ‘ but by next Post will rectify a Mistake
 ‘ committed, as he says, in his last. *Obrian*
 ‘ is this Evening brought to Town.’

It would be impossible for any one
 since Mr. PRIOR's Death, except a Per-
 son as deeply concerned as he in the Trans-
 actions of the Times we are upon, to ex-
 plain all the Secret History comprized in
 the Letters to and from the Earl of *Man-*
chester. Persons and Facts are continually
 spoken of in few Words, some of which
 are never mentioned after; and Mr. PRIOR's
 Name recurs almost every where, as of a
 Gen-

Gentleman in the highest Confidence. Neither the Nature of my Design, nor the Room I have prescribed myself, will permit me to make long Researches. If I furnish Memoirs for those who may hereafter compile a more general History, to supply the Place of what Mr. PRIOR intended, I hope sufficiently to answer the Expectation of my Readers. Some few Remarks however, I shall now and then intersperse, upon those Passages which seem of greatest Consequence. The next Letter will require several, besides those at the Bottom of the Page.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Dec. 7, 1699. O.S.

‘ **T**HOUGH I have written to you
 ‘ by my Lord’s Order, * that is his
 ‘ Letter ; I am to add a Word from my-
 ‘ self.

‘ You see by the News, which ac-
 ‘ companies this Letter, what was done
 ‘ in both Houses Yesterday. In the Upper-
 ‘ House, the Bishop of St. *David’s* Business
 ‘ † was thrown out ; and in the other

* *i. e.* The Earl of *Jersey*.

† Dr. *Watson*, who was accused of Simony, and afterwards deprived for it.

‘ House, Proceedings in relation to *Kidd’s*
 ‘ Matter came to nothing: So that we
 ‘ gained two Triumphs that Day. *Ob! si*
 ‘ *sic omnia.* The Commons Address you
 ‘ you will observe to be somewhat high;
 ‘ but the Moderation and Wisdom of the
 ‘ King’s Answer is thought, even by his
 ‘ Enemies, to be inimitable.

‘ *D’Avenant* has printed his || Book a-
 ‘ gainst Grants, which I take to be a scan-
 ‘ dalous Libel against the Government:
 ‘ I will send it you when we employ a
 ‘ Messenger; for I think it would cost
 ‘ you too dear if it came by the Post.

‘ *Smith*, § who was a Sort of Disco-
 ‘ verer of the Plot, and printed a Book

|| Intitled, *An Essay upon Grants and Resumptions.* Octavo.

§ In the Characters of the *English* and *Scots* Nobility,
 drawn up at the Request of the Princess *Sophia*, by *John*
Macky, Esq; which were publish’d by his Son, 1733.
 Octavo, in the Character of Lord *Peterborough*, p. 64.
 is this remarkable Paragraph. viz.

“ His promising Sir *John Fenwick* his Life, if he would
 “ accuse the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, and the Lord *Orford*,
 “ to have a Design to bring in King *JAMES*; and his
 “ writing a Book, by the Assistance of Dr. *D’Avenant*,
 “ and putting one *Smith’s* Name to it, against that Duke,
 “ lost him with all honest Men; the House of Commons
 “ having voted the *One a scurrilous Design to make a Dif-*
 “ *ference between the King and his best Friends*; and the
 “ House of Peers having ordered the *Second* to be burnt
 “ by the Hands of the common Hangman.”

• This Book was intitled, *Memoirs of Secret Service.* By
Matthew Smith, of the *Inner-Temple*, Esq; Octavo, 1699.

‘ last Year reflecting upon the Duke of
 ‘ *Shrewsbury*, has printed another now to
 ‘ the same Tune. *O Tempora! O Mores!*
 ‘ Every Man says and writes what he will.
 ‘ Next Week I intend to come out my-
 ‘ self with a Panegyric upon the King.
 ‘ I am ever, my Lord, with all imagina-
 ‘ ble Respect, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Story of
Kidd the
 Pirate.

‘ P. S. I do not write to *Stanyan*; for
 ‘ he has not a Park, nor a Doe * in the
 ‘ World: I mean a Doe fit for a Pasty.

The Affair of *Kidd*, the Commons Ad-
 dress with his Majesty’s Answer, and Mr.
 PRIOR’s Panegyric on the King, are three
 Particulars in this Letter that deserve to
 be a little enlarged on.

I. Some Pirates had got together, in
 the *Indian* Seas, and robbed several of the
Mogul’s Ships, in particular one, which
 he was sending with Presents to *Mocha*.
 Most of these Pirates were *English*. The
East-India Company having represented
 the Danger of the *Mogul’s* taking Re-
 prisals, it appeared that there was a Ne-

* Mr. PRIOR is waggish here. These Gentlemen
 called their Mistresses their Does.

cessity

cessity of destroying these Pirates, who harboured in some Creek in *Madagascar*. A Man of War was accordingly sent out to destroy them, and *William Kidd*, who knew their Haunts, was pitch'd upon to command it. But as there was not a Fund to bear the Charge of this, because the Money granted for Sea Service was already appropriated ; the King proposed the Management of it by a private Undertaking. Chancellor *Somers*, the Lord *Orford*, *Romney*, *Bellamont*, and some others, contributed the whole Expenditure. The Chancellor understood nothing of the Matter, and left the whole Management of it to the Rest: Only he thought it became the Post he was in to concur in such a public Service. The Undertakers had a Grant of all that should be taken from the Pirates. This gave a Handle for Complaint ; for as it was unlawful to take the Goods of any Offender, before Conviction ; so a Parity between that Case and this was urged. But in fact the Complaint was groundless, the Provisions of Law being different in the case of Pirates, and that of other Offenders ; because as the former cannot be attacked but in a Way of War, the Captors ought, according to the Laws of War, to have a Right to all they find in the Enemy's Hands.

However, when *Kidd* was sent out, he turned Pirate himself; which occasioned a heavy Load to be cast on the Ministry, but chiefly on him who was at the Head of it. The Privateer, it was insinuated, would not have turned Pirate, but in Confidence of their Protection who employ'd him. So that an Undertaking, which was not only innocent but meritorious, was traduced as a Design for Robbery and Piracy. This was urged in the House of Commons, as an Affair highly criminal, for which all concerned in it ought to be disgraced. A Question was thereupon put, but rejected by a great Majority. This was the Business of which Mr. PRIOR here speaks, who, as well as the Nobleman he wrote to, was highly concerned at the Tempest which seemed to threaten Lord *Somers*. But though it passed over at present, it was afterwards made one of the Articles in his Lordship's Impeachment, as we shall observe in another Place.

Kidd himself was taken in *New England* some Time after (whither he was retiring with his Booty) by Lord *Bellamont* the Governor, one of his Proprietors; and being sent to *England*, was tried at a Session of Admiralty in the *Old-Baily*, and condemned and executed for Murder and Piracy. But his Trial and Execution were not till long after his Arrival: For the
House

House of Commons address'd his Majesty, that he might be kept till next Session of Parliament, in hopes to get something from him against the Lords above-mentioned: Which they not being able to do, he was given up to Justice.

2. The Commons, in their Address, which Mr. PRIOR tells Lord *Manchester* he will observe to be somewhat high, set forth, ' That nothing being more necessary for the Peace and Welfare of this Kingdom, the quieting the Minds of the People, and disappointing the Designs of his Enemies, than a mutual and entire Confidence between his Majesty and his Parliament; they did esteem it their greatest Misfortune, that after having so amply provided for the Security of his Majesty and his Government, both by Sea and Land, any Jealousy or Difficulty had been rais'd of their Duty and Affection to his sacred Majesty and his People.' They beg Leave ' humbly to represent to his Majesty, that it would greatly conduce to the continuing and establishing an entire Confidence between his Majesty and his Parliament, that he would be pleas'd to shew Marks of his high Displeasure towards all such Persons who had or should presume to misrepresent their Proceedings to his Majesty:

‘ And that the Commons, having likewise
 ‘ a due Sense of the great Care and
 ‘ Concern his Majesty had always ex-
 ‘ pressed for preserving and maintaining
 ‘ the Religion, Laws, and Liberties of his
 ‘ People (in Defence of which his Ma-
 ‘ jesty had so often exposed his Royal Per-
 ‘ son) would use their utmost Care and
 ‘ Endeavours to prevent and discourage
 ‘ all false Rumours and Reports, reflecting
 ‘ upon his Majesty and his Government,
 ‘ whereby to create any Misunderstanding
 ‘ between him and his Subjects.’

The ‘ moderate and wise Answer,’ re-
turn’d by his Majesty, was as follows.

GENTLEMEN,

‘ **M**Y Parliament have done so great
 ‘ Things for me, and I have, upon
 ‘ all proper Occasions, expressed so great
 ‘ a Sense of their Kindness, and my Opi-
 ‘ nion has been so often declared, that
 ‘ the Happiness of an *English* King de-
 ‘ pends upon an entire good Correspon-
 ‘ dence between him and his Parliament,
 ‘ that it cannot seem strange for me to
 ‘ assure you, that no Persons have yet
 ‘ dared to go about to misrepresent to me
 ‘ the Proceedings of either House. Had
 ‘ I found any such, they would have im-
 ‘ mediately

‘mediately felt the highest Marks of my
‘Displeasure. It is a Justice I owe not only
‘to my Parliament, but to every one of
‘my Subjects, to judge of them by their
‘Actions; and this Rule I will steadily
‘pursue. If any hereafter shall attempt
‘to put me on other Methods, by Calum-
‘nies or Misrepresentations, they will not
‘only fail of Success, but shall be look’d
‘upon and treated by me as my worst
‘Enemies.’

GENTLEMEN,

‘I am pleased to see, by your Address,
‘that you have the same Thoughts of the
‘great Advantages which will ensue to this
‘Kingdom by our mutual Confidence, as I
‘expressed to both Houses, at the Opening
‘of this Session. I take very kindly the As-
‘surance you give me of using your utmost
‘Care and Endeavours, to prevent and dis-
‘courage all false Rumours and Reports, re-
‘flecting upon Me, and my Government;
‘and I faithfully promise you, that no
‘Actions of mine shall give a just Ground
‘for any Misunderstanding between me
‘and my People.’

3. Mr. PRIOR's Panegyric upon the
King, which he was to publish the next
Week after writing this Letter, was his

famous *Carmen Seculare* ; a Poem which many Judges, for very good Reasons, have pronounced the most sublime of all his Writings. *Horace's* Ode with the same Title, though undoubtedly it was in some Sense our Poet's Model, must be acknowledged to be far inferior to it in true Grandeur of Thought, and Variety of Images.

How does the Character of his Hero rise under his Hand, and obscure the Lustre of all the great Names in antient and modern Story, whose Virtues and Faults he has strongly painted in a few bold and significant Lines!

The Son * of MARS reduced the trembling Swains,
And spread his Empire o'er the distant Plains:
But yet the SABINES violated Charms
Obscur'd the Glory of his rising Arms.
NUMA the Rights of strict Religion knew ;
On ev'ry Altar laid the Incense due ;
Unskill'd to dart the pointed Spear,
Or lead the forward Youth to noble War.
Stern BRUTUS was with too much Horror good,
Holding his *Fasces* stain'd with Filial Blood.
FABIUS was wise, but with Excess of Care :
He sav'd his Country ; but prolong'd the War.

* *Romulus.*

While DECIUS, PAULUS, CURIUS, greatly fought,
And by their strict Examples taught,
How wild Desires should be controll'd,
And how much brighter Virtue was, than Gold ;
They scarce their swelling Thirst of Fame could hide,
And boasted Poverty with too much Pride.
Excess in Youth made SCIPIO less rever'd :
And CATO, dying, seem'd to own, he fear'd.
JULIUS with Honour tam'd ROME's foreign Foes :
But Patriots fell, e'er the Dictator rose.
And while with Clemency AUGUSTUS reign'd ;
The Monarch was ador'd ; the City chain'd.

* * * * *

Turn then to PHARAMOND, and CHARLEMAIN,
And the long Heroes of the GALlick Strain ;
Experienc'd Chiefs, for hardy Prowess known,
And bloody Wreaths in vent'rous Battles won.
From the first WILLIAM, our great NORMAN King,
The bold PLANTAGENETS, and TUDORS bring ;
Illustrious Virtues, who by turns have rose,
In foreign Fields to check BRITANNIA's Foes :
With happy Laws her Empire to sustain ;
And with full Power assert her ambient Main :
But sometimes too industrious to be great,
Nor patient to expect the Turns of Fate,
They open'd Camps deform'd by civil Fight ;
And made proud Conquest trample over Right :
Disparted BRITAIN mourn'd their doubtful Sway ;
And dreaded both, when neither wou'd obey.

From DIDIER and Imperial ADOLPH trace
The glorious Offspring of the NASSAW Race,

The HISTORY of

Devoted Lives to publick Liberty;
 The Chief still dying, or the Country free.
 Then see the kindred Blood of ORANGE flow,
 From warlike CORNET thro' the Loins of BEAU;
 Thro' CHALON next; and there with NASSAW join,
 From RHONE's fair Bankstransplanted to the RHINE.
 Bring next the Royal List of STUARTS forth,
 Undaunted Minds, that rul'd the rugged North;
 'Till Heav'n's Decrees by rip'ning Times are shown;
 'Till Scotland's Kings ascend the *English* Throne;
 And the fair Rivals live for ever One.

JANUS, mighty Deity,
 Be kind; and as thy searching Eye
 Does our Modern Story trace,
 Finding some of STUART's Race
 Unhappy, pass their Annals by:
 No harsh Reflection let Remembrance raise;
 Forbear to mention, what thou canst not praise:
 * * * * *
 Whether wouldst thou further look?
 Read WILLIAM's Acts, and close the ample Book;
 Peruse the Wonders of his dawning Life;
 How, like ALCIDES, he began;
 With Infant Patience calm'd seditious Strife,
 And quell'd the Snakes which round his Cradle ran.
 Describe his Youth, attentive to Alarms,
 By Dangers form'd, and perfected in Arms:
 When conqu'ring, mild; when conquer'd, not disgrace'd;
 By Wrongs not lessen'd, nor by Triumphs rais'd:

Super-

Superior to the blind Events
Of little human Accidents;
And constant to his first Decree,
To curb the Proud, to set the Injur'd free,
To bow the haughty Neck, and raise the suppliant
Knee.

His opening Years to riper Manhood bring;
And see the Hero perfect in the King:
Imperious Arms by manly Reason sway'd;
And Power supreme by free Consent obey'd:
With how much Haste his Mercy meets his Foes;
And how unbounded his Forgiveness flows:
With what Desire he makes his Subjects blest,
His Favours granted ere his Throne address'd.
What Trophies o'er our captiv'd Hearts he rears,
By Arts of Peace more potent than by Wars:
How o'er himself, as o'er the World he reigns,
His Morals strengthening, what his Law ordains.

Through all his Thread of Life already spun,
Becoming Grace and proper Action run:
The Piece by Virtue's equal Hand is wrought,
Mix'd with no Crime, and shaded with no Fault:

No Footsteps of the Victor's Rage
Left in the Camp, where WILLIAM did engage:

No Tincture of the Monarch's Pride
Upon the Royal Purple spy'd:
His Fame, like Gold, the more 'tis try'd,
The more shall its intrinsic Worth proclaim;
Shall pass the Combat of the searching Flame,
And triumph o'er the vanquish'd Heat,
For ever coming out the same,
And losing nor its Lustre, nor its Weight,

The Arts of Verification are no where more happily employ'd, than in the following curious Stanza.

Science to raise, and Knowledge to enlarge,
 Be our great Master's future Charge;
 To write his own Memoirs, and leave his Heirs
 High Schemes of Government, and Plans of Wars;
 By fair Rewards our noble Youth to raise
 To emulous Merit, and to Thirst of Praise;
 To lead them out from Ease ere opening Dawn,
 Through the thick Forest and the distant Lawn,
 Where the fleet Stag employs their ardent Care;
 And Chafes give them Images of War.
 To teach them Vigilance by false Alarms;
 Inure them in feign'd Camps to real Arms;
 Practise them now to curb the turning Steed,
 Mocking the Foe; now to his rapid Speed
 To give the Rein; and in the full Career,
 To draw the certain Sword, or send the pointed Spear.

I will mention but one more Passage;
 for to point out all the Beauties in this
 Ode, I must insert the whole. It is where
 he shadows out the Power of a Tyrant
 under the Image of a Comet, and compares
 that of his Sovereign to the regular
 Light of the Sun,

Thro' the large Convex of the Azure Sky
 (For thither Nature casts our common Eye)
 Fierce Meteors shoot their arbitrary Light,
 And Comets march with lawless Horror bright:

Those

Those hear no Rule, no righteous Order own ;
 Their Influence dreaded, as their Ways unknown :
 Thro' threaten'd Lands they wild Destruction throw ;
 'Till ardent Prayer averts the publick Woe :
 But the bright Orb that blesses all above,
 The sacred Fire, the real Son of Jove,
 Rules not his Actions by capricious Will,
 Nor by ungovern'd Power declines to Ill :
 Fix'd by just Laws, he goes for-ever right ;
 Man knows his Course, and thence adores his Light.

But to return to our Correspondence. We find that Lord *Manchester* was extremely watchful over King JAMES's Court, and procured Intelligence of almost every Person that went from *England* to *St. Germain's*. There are many Instances of this in his Letters, of which I will here insert one from a Letter to Lord *Jersey*, dated *December 23, 1699*, because it mentions our Poet.

' Mr. PRIOR may remember, that
 ' I talked to him, when he was here
 ' last, about taking up one *Claude*, a
 ' *Frenchman*, as he says he is, who served
 ' the late Lord B——l, in order to ex-
 ' change him for *Pierre Perault*, or *Ar-*
 ' *nold*. If your Lordship be of that Mind,
 ' he is almost every Day at the *Dog-Ta-*
 ' *vern* in *Drury-Lane*; and *Couchman*,
 ' the Messenger, will be a proper Person
 ' to

‘ to apprehend him, because he was acquainted with him when he was at *Paris*. This *Claude* was much at *St. Germain*, while he staid in *France*, and endeavoured to seduce several *English* thither. But that which will be a better Reason for seizing him, is his having attended *Richardson*, one of the Assassins, while he was concealed in the late Lord *B——’s* House; which, I am told, he bragged of when he was here last.’

His Lordship was also very careful, continually to transmit fresh Accounts of the State of King *JAMES’s* Health, who was a long Time afflicted with a dangerous Disorder near his Fundament, which at last proved the Occasion of his Death. He writes thus to Mr. *PRIOR*.

S I R,

Paris, Jan. 2. 1700.

‘ **H**AVING writ so lately, by Mr. *Stanhope*, to the Earl of *Jersey*, I do not trouble him now. I must desire you to make my Excuse, and acquaint him with the Contents of this. There is nothing at present acting at *St. Germain*, King *JAMES* being not well, and giving himself wholly up to Devotions and Prayers. The Wound, which was very large, is healed; but it is thought they have done it too soon, because the
‘ same

‘ same Humours run all over his Body,
‘ sometimes in his Stomach, Legs, &c.
‘ He is extremely broke, and most Men
‘ are of Opinion he cannot recover, tho’
‘ he may go on some time as he is. Fa-
‘ ther *Cosmo* is run away with fifty thou-
‘ sand Livres, which he had in his Hands,
‘ and which he was to distribute among
‘ the *Irish*. They think he may be gone
‘ for *England*, since he cannot be safe in
‘ any other Place. If I learn any thing
‘ of him you shall hear from me: Never-
‘ theless, it may not be improper to make
‘ some Enquiry after him; and you will
‘ find by my former Accounts, where his
‘ Acquaintance live in *London*. I was
‘ Yesterday at *Versailles*, where I made a
‘ Compliment to the King and the rest of
‘ the Court, it being *New-Year’s-Day*.
‘ I dined with Monsieur *de Boufflers*. I
‘ find them all very civil; but how long
‘ it will last you can best judge. I wonder
‘ my Servant has not been with you; the
‘ Buck-Season must make it up. We want
‘ two Posts, having had no Letters since
‘ the 31st of *December* last.’ I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Father *Cosmo*, as we learn from his
Lordship’s Letter of Jan. 13, to the Earl
of *Jersey*, was a *Scotch* Priest, whose
right

right Name was *Clark*. ‘ I hear, says
 ‘ he, that he is got to *Leyden* in *Holland*,
 ‘ where I presume it may not be difficult
 ‘ for his Majesty to get him seized, since
 ‘ it is certain that he had a great Share
 ‘ in the late King’s Confidence in several
 ‘ Matters. I am in hopes he may be more
 ‘ easy in making an ingenuous Confession,
 ‘ because he can have no farther Prospect
 ‘ of Advantage this Way, after having
 ‘ cheated them so grossly; at least, when
 ‘ he is once in Custody, it will be no hard
 ‘ Matter to extort the Truth from him.
 ‘ He is a very tall thin Man, long-visaged,
 ‘ has a high *Roman* Nose, with a fresh
 ‘ Complexion, which, ’tis said here, he
 ‘ painted, and is about thirty-eight Years
 ‘ of Age. I believe Mr. PRIOR has seen
 ‘ him, and can describe him more exactly.’
 And in another, a Fortnight after, his Lord-
 ship says, ‘ They had that Confidence in
 ‘ *Cosmo, alias Clark*, that the Duke of
 ‘ *Berwick* lent him his Calash, thinking he
 ‘ would return the same Day: But he went
 ‘ with it to *Leyder*, and since that they
 ‘ hear he is at *Amsterdam*. He knows
 ‘ the whole Proceedings of that Court;
 ‘ so that if he could be taken, he would
 ‘ probably confess all, there being no Pro-
 ‘ spect for him to return hither.—Mr.
 ‘ * *Minnis*, who went from hence in

* See P. 116.

‘ *August* last, corresponds with Lord *Middleton*, as also one *Netherville*. I believe
‘ Mr. PRIOR knows them both.’

One of the principal Facts mentioned
in Mr. PRIOR's next Letter to the Earl of
Manchester, has been before taken notice
of, p. 56 of this Work.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Jan. 18. 1700. O. S.

‘ **W**E have this Morning two Posts
‘ from *France*, of the 20th and
‘ 23d. My Lord *Jersey* commands me
‘ to acknowledge your Letter to him;
‘ and to tell you, that the House of Lords
‘ sitting so late, and he being obliged, af-
‘ ter its rising, to go to *Kensington*, is the
‘ Reason why he does not write to you.
‘ You will see, by the Inclosed, what a
‘ Day's Work has been performed in the
‘ House of Commons; the *Irish* Grants
‘ to be re-assumed, and not even the third
‘ Part of them to be reserved to the King;
‘ and the Ministry, some of our Friends
‘ particularly, meant and aimed at in
‘ the latter Part of their Vote. This all
‘ comes like a Torrent; and the few that
‘ would, cannot. In the House of Lords,
‘ the King is a little more civilly used.
‘ As to the Business of *Darien*, his Ma-
‘ jesty

‘ jesty is at least justified in his Letters to
 ‘ the Governors of the Plantations. Thus
 ‘ we are, my good Lord, scrambling, and
 ‘ doing our best on one Side against the
 ‘ other, who are very troublesome, not
 ‘ to say dangerous.

‘ We hear of the Complaints you make
 ‘ from Monsieur *de Tallard*, and prepare
 ‘ to redress them as well as we can. As
 ‘ to the Persons mentioned in your Letter,
 ‘ Care will be taken.

‘ The King has not yet seen Lord *Ba-*
 ‘ *zil*, or any Address from him. I do
 ‘ not hear that this Lord’s Countrymen
 ‘ are quieter. I know not how far your
 ‘ House’s Resolution of to-day will go
 ‘ towards calming them. I am ever, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Tho’ Mr. PRIOR at this Time was not either Secretary of State or Ambassador, yet it seems as if neither of those Ministers had so much Knowledge as himself of the most private Affairs. A certain Person often mentioned under the Distinction of *la Personne dont il s’agit*, who was to give some signal Light into the Transactions then on foot, appears to have been referred, at first, almost entirely to Mr. PRIOR’s Direction. Lord *Jersey* says, in a Letter to the Earl of *Manchester*,

ter, That ' he did not find the King wil-
' ling to be at a great Expence about the
' *Personne dont il s'agit*, without some
' Assurance of the Service he could do :
' That Mr. PRIOR had been ill, which
' was the Reason he could not know of
' him in what this Person could be most
' useful. In the mean Time, he desired
' his Lordship to keep this Matter on
' foot, and let him know his Opinion,
' as to the Expence and Advantage they
' might have by it.' To which the Earl
of *Manchester* gave this Answer. ' I de-
' sire to know his Majesty's Directions in
' regard to *la Personne dont il s'agit*. Be-
' ing informed where he was at *Paris*, I
' thought it proper to bring this Matter
' to a Conclusion, and that Mr. *Stanyan*
' should write to desire to speak with him ;
' which accordingly he did, and the Per-
' son consented to meet him. The Pro-
' posal that was made to him was, that
' in case he would go for *England*, and
' declare the Truth of all he knew, and
' even give Evidence, in case there was
' any Occasion, and serve the King and
' Government to the best of his Power, I
' had Orders to assure him of His Ma-
' jesty's Pardon, and that he and his Fa-
' mily should be taken care of, he having
' also a Wife and Children. He seemed
' to embrace this Proposal very well ; say-
M ing,

‘ ing, wheresoever he engaged, he would
‘ be zealous in their Service: That for
‘ *St. Germain*s, he had served them faith-
‘ fully; but thought, that after the Usage
‘ he had met with, he had no farther Ob-
‘ ligation: But still insisted, that he did
‘ not know how to bring himself to give
‘ public Evidence in a Court. Mr. *Stan-*
‘ *yan* gave him such Reasons, that this
‘ Matter is over with him. They have
‘ met since, and the only Difference that
‘ now remains, is, that he insists to be at
‘ a Certainty, and to know what will be
‘ allowed him, and he seems to desire a
‘ Sum of Money, rather than so much
‘ yearly. Mr. *Stanyan* endeavoured to
‘ know what he expected, but could not
‘ prevail with him to name any Thing;
‘ saying, his Demands might be such,
‘ that I should not think proper to write
‘ and propose them. Mr. *Stanyan* said,
‘ he thought, that tho’ it might not be
‘ granted, yet he hoped I would write; for
‘ that he could not engage in this Matter,
‘ unless he was certain of what he might
‘ depend on. Mr. *Stanyan* is of Opinion,
‘ that he is sincere, and may be of great
‘ Service: But nothing can be done
‘ with him, unless I propose something
‘ of this Nature. Therefore, if your
‘ Lordship will let me know the King’s
‘ Pleasure, how much I may offer, and
‘ in

‘ in what Manner ; I will do it in the
 ‘ best Way I can for his Majesty’s Service :’
 His Excellency says in the same Letter,
 that ‘ he had enclosed a Paper for Mr.
 ‘ PRIOR, concerning some Things at
 ‘ Paris.’

To this Lord *Jersey* reply’d, that hav-
 ing received his Lordship’s, which had
 been acknowledged by Mr. PRIOR, ‘ He
 ‘ had laid the Substance of them before
 ‘ his Majesty : That as to *la Personne*, the
 ‘ King would give him a Pardon ; and for
 ‘ his Encouragement, Lord *Manchester*
 ‘ might offer him as far as four or five
 ‘ hundred Pounds, and a Pension of three
 ‘ Pounds a Week : That this would an-
 ‘ swer all Objections he could make, and
 ‘ be sufficient to gain him, provided there
 ‘ were a fair Intention on his Side ; for
 ‘ he might be sure to be subsisted accord-
 ‘ ing to what he should discover : That
 ‘ upon this Intimation his Lordship might
 ‘ proceed, as he saw the Thing appear
 ‘ upon further Discourse.’

It is in the following Letter, that Mr.
 PRIOR acknowledges the Receipt of Lord
Manchester’s above referr’d to. But the
 most remarkable Part of it, is the honest
 Concern he expresses for the furious Attack
 that was expected upon the great Lord
Somers. Never was Servant more faithful,

nor Friend more sincere and hearty than he, to all who merited his real Esteem. We shall discover more of the same Nature in other Letters.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord, Whitehall, Feb. $\frac{12}{23}$. 1700.

‘ **M**Y Lord *Jersey* gives me in Charge
 ‘ to own the Receipt of your Letters, of the 16th and 17th, the Substance of which my Lord will lay before his Majesty the first Opportunity.

‘ If you hear no more of the great Affair, it is because nothing is transacted in it farther than when your Excellency was last advised of it; consequently *Roger* is not yet dispatched.

‘ I must congratulate your Happiness, that you are out of this Noise and Tumult, where we are tearing and destroying every Man his Neighbour. Tomorrow is the great Day when we expect that my Lord Chancellor will be fallen upon; though God knows what Crime he is guilty of, but that of being a very great Man, and a wise and upright Judge. Lord *Bellamont*, you will read in the Votes, was fallen upon to-day; thus every Day a Minister, till at last we reach the King. By next Post I shall,

‘ I

‘ I presume, be able to write to you what
 ‘ relates to Matters on your Side: I am
 ‘ heartily tired with them on our Side.’

I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

The Great Affair mentioned again in Mr. PRIOR's next Letter, of which Count *Tallard* was to give an Account, seems to be the concluding some private Treaty, in all Probability the second Partition.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, Feb. 22, 1700. O.S.

‘ I HAVE no particular Commands
 ‘ from your Lordship ; so can only
 ‘ acknowledge the Receipt of the *French*
 ‘ Letters of the 24th and 27th. The
 ‘ great Affair was transacted this Morning,
 ‘ though I believe Count *Tallard* will not
 ‘ be able to send his Express away these
 ‘ two or three Days. My Lord *Jersy*
 ‘ still keeps his Bed, his Gout had a Fe-
 ‘ ver which accompanied it; but, God be
 ‘ thanked, both those Distempers abate,
 ‘ and I hope by next Post he will tell you
 ‘ so in his own Hand. In the mean Time,
 ‘ we take what Care we can about the

' Contents of your last Letter to my Lord;
 ' tho', God knows, all the Care we take
 ' signifies little, considering how we are
 ' restrained as to the taking any Body,
 ' though the Informations given make it
 ' highly necessary for the public Good;
 ' But you know *England* well enough in
 ' this Point, my Lord.

' The Speaker's Illness gives the House
 ' of Commons leave to play till *Monday*.
 ' The Address they presented Yesterday to
 ' the King, he answered very civilly, but
 ' smartly : I have not yet the Words, but
 ' shall send them with the first. The
 ' Sense was, That he was sensible the Na-
 ' tion lay under great Taxes; that he had
 ' and would contribute to the easing them
 ' by every Way which was just; that he
 ' thought he had the Power of gratifying
 ' some who had been actually in the Re-
 ' duction of *Ireland*, out of what was
 ' his.

' I had written your Lordship a long
 ' politic Letter, for I thought that *Roger*
 ' would have been dispatched to you; but
 ' since there are no Particularities in the
 ' Affair I have spoke of, I have sent Word
 ' to Mr. *Woolaston*, that *Roger* may stay
 ' to go over with the Midwife for my
 ' Lady: *Quod felix Faustumque sit, &c.*

' If I might speak my particular Senti-
 ' ments concerning *la Personne dont il*
 ' s'agit,

‘ *s’agit*, I would have him well sifted,
 ‘ and tried if he means to act in earnest,
 ‘ and is really disposed to the Thing; o-
 ‘ therwise we may be bantered, to say no
 ‘ worse of it: But this is only to yourself,
 ‘ my Lord, and from him who is eter-
 ‘ nally, with great Respect, &c.’

M. PRIOR.

His Excellency acknowledged the Re-
 ceipt of this, in one a few Days after
 to Lord *Jersey*, wherein he expresses his
 Concern at his Lordship's Illness. And
 then speaking of some Affairs that were then
 transacting at the *French* Court, about the
 Principality of *Orange*, he says, ‘ The
 ‘ Account of this I suppose your Lord-
 ‘ ship will have received from Mr. PRIOR,
 ‘ whom I acquainted with it by Mr. *Stan-*
 ‘ *yan*, having been of late out of Order.’

His being a public Minister, and em-
 ployed in the most weighty Affairs, did
 not make Mr. PRIOR forget his Relation
 to the Seat of the Muses, the University
 of *Cambridge*, of which he was a Fellow,
 and where he was this Year created Ma-
 ster of Arts by *Mandamus*, * fourteen
 Years after he had taken his Batchelor's
 Degree. He speaks of the University as

1700.

* He took his Degree of Batchelor in 1686.

The HISTORY of

if it had been his constant Residence, and one would take him rather for the Master of a College, who had no other Concerns but those of Learning, than for a Gentleman immersed in national Business, with whom literary Affairs could have but a second Place.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

April 1, 1700. O.S.

‘ **F**OR above these two Months past,
 ‘ I have not had an Opportunity of
 ‘ sending over a *Horace*, which we print-
 ‘ ed at *Cambridge*, and which my Lord
 ‘ Duke of *Somerſet*, our Chancellor, pre-
 ‘ sents to the King of *France*’s Library,
 ‘ with a Letter which his Grace writes on
 ‘ that Subject to the Abbé de *Louvois*:
 ‘ But I have at last sent them by a Foot-
 ‘ man who quitted my Service. The Book
 ‘ and Letter will be, or are already, de-
 ‘ livered to Mr. *Stanyan*, and the Favour
 ‘ we beg of your Excellency is, that you
 ‘ would honour this Book with a Word, by
 ‘ which the Court of *France*, and parti-
 ‘ cularly the Archbishop of *Rheims* and
 ‘ Abbé *Louvois* may take notice, that the
 ‘ University of *Cambridge* would establish
 ‘ a fair Correspondence with the Learned
 ‘ on your Side. By next Post, I shall
 ‘ write

‘ write something to the *Soubibliothecaire*,*
 ‘ Monsieur *Clermont*, concerning the Greek
 ‘ Cyphers we would buy of them: In
 ‘ this I must likewise desire your Lord-
 ‘ ship's good Offices, since without your
 ‘ appearing to be concerned in it, we shall
 ‘ hardly make our Matters bear as we de-
 ‘ sire. Monsieur *Friebergen* came on *Fri-*
 ‘ *day*. I have not yet seen him. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

The two next Letters contain a very brief, but affectionate Account of the Disputes then subsisting in Parliament, of which we have before taken some † notice, and which ended in the Fall of those great Men who were levelled at by the Party against the Court.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 10, 1700. O.S.

‘ **H**AVING written for my Master,
 ‘ I have very little to add for my-
 ‘ self; except that I am very glad my
 ‘ || Lord *Mandeville* is come to Town,
 ‘ and hope he will stay long with us. I
 ‘ am glad he was born at *Paris*, for had

* Under-Librarian.
 Earl of *Manchester*'s Son.

† See Page 56.

|| The

‘ he

‘ he been born here, he would have liked
 ‘ living among us so little, that I question
 ‘ whether he would have thought it worth
 ‘ his while to have sucked. The Votes
 ‘ of to-day pretty well explain what I
 ‘ mean. God knows how the Business
 ‘ will turn, or where this Violence of the
 ‘ House of Commons will end. The
 ‘ Lords seem as yet to adhere to their
 ‘ Point: On *Wednesday* we expect the Is-
 ‘ sue of all this. *Seymour* * plainly said
 ‘ to-day, that the Original of all this pro-
 ‘ ceeded from the Ministers, and from
 ‘ the chief of them, the Chancellor.
 ‘ Many other angry Sayings of this kind
 ‘ have been vented; and in the Heat of
 ‘ this Hurry *Kidd* is arrived, and sent up
 ‘ for, with his Papers, by an Order from
 ‘ the Admiralty. Our Friend † has said
 ‘ nothing of late in the House of Com-
 ‘ mons. My Lord Chancellor is very sick.
 ‘ This is the *Abbrege* of our Case, I think
 ‘ no very good one. I am going to *Ken-*
 ‘ *sington* the Moment after I have told
 ‘ you, that I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

* Sir *Edward Seymour*.

† Mr. *Montague*, late Earl of *Hallifax*.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 11, 1700. O.S.

OUR long Session is this Day, God be thanked, finished; the *Irish* Grants resumed, and the Commons satisfied, at least for some Time. Yesterday was indeed a great Crisis, from the Morning, when it was doubtful if the Lords would adhere to their Amendments or no. The Commons fell directly upon impeaching. The Persons they named were my Lords *Portland* and *Albemarle*; the Articles upon which they were going, for procuring for themselves exorbitant Grants. In this State the Affair lasted till after the second Conference with the Lords; and immediately upon the Managers returning from the Conference, the House, though they thought the Lords would recede, locked themselves up till ten at Night, of which you see the good Effects in the Votes. They threw Fire about at every Body; had a great Mind to fling at our Friend *Charles*: You see what they would have done to my Lord Chancellor, and how Duke *Schomberg*, and Lord *Portland* suffer in their Address, that Strangers shall not be Privy-Councillors. God knows

‘ knows whether this Heat would have
 ‘ gone, if it had not been timely dispatch-
 ‘ ed by every Body’s striving to come in;
 ‘ so this Bill passed: Upon the Main, we
 ‘ have Life for six Months longer, and
 ‘ * *alors comme alors*.

‘ The Affair upon which I came into
 ‘ *France*, will be quite ended to-night.
 ‘ Your Lordship will pretend, in any Dis-
 ‘ course you may have on that Subject,
 ‘ to think it was quite ended three Weeks
 ‘ since, or at least, that you heard nothing
 ‘ to the contrary. I hope my Lord *Man-*
 ‘ *deville* is well, and his beautiful Mother,
 ‘ whom the *French* Ladies will talk to
 ‘ Death, unless you get your Doors locked
 ‘ up, like those of the House of Com-
 ‘ mons.

‘ My Lord commands me to acknow-
 ‘ ledge yours of the 17th, and says, the
 ‘ perpetual Hurry in which we have been,
 ‘ must serve for a Reason that as yet he
 ‘ has not spoke to the King to be your
 ‘ Gossip: But this, my Lord says, is a
 ‘ Favour which he doubts not but the
 ‘ King will grant, and he will tell you so
 ‘ himself next Post. I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

* Then we shall see what must be done.

As

As soon as Business would permit, Mr. PRIOR falls again upon his *Horace* and his *Greek* Types. It was, no doubt, the most agreeable Part of his Life, when he could appear as the Gentleman and the Scholar, rather than as the Statesman. His mixing every where so much of the two former Characters, even when he writes in the latter, is a sufficient Evidence of this Truth. Lord *Manchester*'s Answer to the next Letter is also very polite, and immediately follows it.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Whitehall, April 18, 1700. O.S.

OUR Parliament Affairs being at length finished, we have a little Time to think on our private Devoirs. I must therefore beg your Excellency (if you have not done it already) to give the *Horace*, and the Duke of *Somerset*'s Letter, to *Abbé de Louvois*, making the Archbishop of *Rheims* acquainted with the Duke's Present, and the Desire we have to correspond with the Learned at *Paris*. I have written to Mr. *Clermont* what the University desires, as to the procuring us some *Greek* Types. If your Excellency expends the Money, and are pleased to draw upon

‘ upon me, I will answer the Bills: I
 ‘ should be glad they could be got ready
 ‘ soon. I should not dare to trouble your
 ‘ Excellency, but that your Protection to
 ‘ the University is absolutely necessary on
 ‘ this Occasion.

‘ His Majesty goes to-morrow to
 ‘ *Hampton-Court*, and will stay there, we
 ‘ say, these six Weeks. At the End of a
 ‘ Session of Parliament, you know, we al-
 ‘ ways talk of a Change in the Ministry.
 ‘ We do so at present, but upon what
 ‘ Ground I know not. I am, &c.’

M. PRIOR.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, May 5. 1706.

‘ THE Court being at *Marly*, Mon-
 ‘ sieur *de Torcy* will not be in Town
 ‘ till to-morrow; so I must make my
 ‘ Excuse to my Lord *Jersy* by you, for
 ‘ my not writing. My Wife lays all the
 ‘ Fault on you, that we have not yet
 ‘ heard, if we may give the Little-one
 ‘ the King’s Name, and I dare not ven-
 ‘ ture without knowing that positively:
 ‘ So that, at present, you are a little out
 ‘ of Favour, and will be so unless we hear
 ‘ by the next Letters.

‘ I

‘ I shall do all I can to serve the University, and shall take care about the *Horace*, when I have it. Mr. *Stanyan* will acquaint you how that Matter stands, and how this Book is seized at *Diepe*. I have not seen the Archbishop of *Rheims* for some Time, and I believe he is gone to his Diocese.

‘ Several of the great Men here will dine with me to-morrow, and among them the *Mareschal de Villeroy*. He will certainly ask after you, as he often does. The little Hopes our Friends at *St. Germain*s have left, is in *Scotland*, and if that fails, all Things will be quiet till the next Meeting of the Parliament. I think instead of a Change in the Ministers, we should have a new Parliament; that would be more for the King's Service. Not much Good can be expected from a last Session. We hear the King intends to go for *Holland* next Summer. When that is certain, pray let me know it, which will oblige, &c.

MANCHESTER.

The Earl seems to have been very solicitous about getting his Majesty to be his Son's Godfather: But by what appears in the foregoing, it was chiefly to humour his

his Lady, who might be fond of that Honour. He writes again on that Head to Lord *Jersey*, telling him, that ‘ he was
 ‘ in hopes to have heard, by his Lord-
 ‘ ship’s last Letter, that his Majesty would
 ‘ do him the Honour to christen his Son :
 ‘ But he feared the great Hurry his Lord-
 ‘ ship had been in, had prevented his
 ‘ Speaking: That he should stay till the
 ‘ next Post, and then take the Liberty to
 ‘ give him the King’s Name; since, by
 ‘ Mr. PRIOR’s, his Lordship seemed to
 ‘ think that Favour would not be denied
 ‘ him.’

Lord So-
 mers re-
 moved.

Before Mr. PRIOR’s next Letter, Lord *Somers* was actually removed, as we learn from his mentioning the supposed Offer of his Place to Lord Chief Justice *Holt*. His Majesty, finding there was still a strong Party among the Commons against that able and faithful Minister, tho’ the Majority was still warm in his Defence, was pleased to take the great Seal from him, and give it to Sir *Nathan Wright*, a Man in no Sense equal to his illustrious Predecessor. This tame Submission of the King to the Violence of a Minority, against a Person of such Eminence and Credit, was thought to be the Occasion of his losing many Friends; as was also his unalienable Attachment to the Earl of *Albemarle*,
 the

the then Favourite, whom, to the general Disgust of the Nobility, he created a Knight of the Garter.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Hampton-Court, May 2, 1700. O.S.

I AM to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 8th. I do not believe there will be Occasion for *Roger's* Stay. As the Affair of Sir *William*, &c. has gone through the Hands of the Church, so it is convenient that it should so continue: And as to the Great Affair, I shall take Care to manage it as you have already done, in relation to that Person's knowing it, whom you mention in your Letter. The Thing itself cannot, I think, in its own Nature, be long a Secret: God only knows what Effect it may have when it comes out, so strange a People are we, and so resolved not to be pleased with any Thing. I shall be able, in a Post or two, to send *Brocard* some Money, out of which your Excellency will repay yourself what you have expended, before you give or order him the rest. I believe, there is no great Matter to be known; but such as it is, he must be encouraged.

‘ I have only in Charge, from my Lord
 ‘ *Jersey*, to own the Receipt of yours of
 ‘ the 8th, and to tell your Lordship, that
 ‘ he will answer you, by sending away
 ‘ your Express with the first Opportunity.
 ‘ My Lord Chief Justice *Holt* having been
 ‘ here to-day, and with the King in pri-
 ‘ vate, has given People Occasion to say,
 ‘ that he has refused the Seals: If it be
 ‘ so, or not, I cannot say; but as yet the
 ‘ Seals are not disposed of. The King,
 ‘ God be thanked, is well; which is all
 ‘ the News I can send you from this Place.
 ‘ I dined to-day with Mr. *Montague* here,
 ‘ and drank my Lord *Manchester*’s Health.

I am, &c.

M. PRIOR.

Mr. PRI-
 OR made
 Commis-
 sioner of
 Trade and
 Plantati-
 ons.

This is the last Letter we have of Mr.
 PRIOR’s Writing while he was in the Se-
 cretary’s Office. On *Midsummer-Day*,
 his old Master, the Earl of *Jersey*, was
 made Lord Chamberlain. And the famous
 Mr. *Locke* resigning soon after his Place of
 Commissioner of Trade and Plantations,
 on account of his ill State of Health, Mr.
 PRIOR was appointed to succeed him. In
 this less burdensome, and more profitable
 Employment, he continued several Years,
 till the Ministry had again need of him
 towards the End of *Queen ANNE*’s Reign.

These

These Alterations however, though they were talked of at the breaking-up of the Session, were not expected immediately before they happened, even by Mr. PRIOR himself. We learn this from a Letter of Lord *Manchester* to him, in answer to one that is not in being.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, June 30, 1700.

I DO not write by this Post to my Lord *Jersey*, because Mr. *Stanyan* intends to set out on *Friday* next, and by him I will let his Lordship know what occurs.

I find by yours, of the 13th Instant, O.S. that there are not to be any Changes. By this I see the Town follows its old Custom of placing and displacing several. As for my own Particular, I shall never like *France* so well as not to wish to be at home. You know the *French* very well, and I believe you find the Diversions at *Hampton-Court*, where I hear you are often, more to your Satisfaction than any Thing here.

The News we have at present is, that the Pope has made a Promotion for the Crowns, viz. the Archbishop of *Paris* (who was Yesterday at *Versailles* to thank

‘ the King) for *France*; the Bishop of
 ‘ *Passaro*, for the Emperor; and *Borgia*,
 ‘ a Canon of *Toledo*, for *Spain*. There
 ‘ are still two in *Petto*. We have some-
 ‘ times Reports here of the King’s being
 ‘ indisposed; but I hope it is not true.

I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

But within ten Days after his Lordship writes in another Strain, and with a very honest Concern for his Friend’s Provision.

To Mr. PRIOR.

S I R,

Paris, July 10, 1700.

‘ I WAS very sorry to hear my Lord
 ‘ *Jersy* had quitted the Office, and
 ‘ much more so, because you also leave it.
 ‘ I suppose you have long foreseen this,
 ‘ and cannot but take care of yourself,
 ‘ being upon the Place: For you often
 ‘ said, Men were forgot when abroad.
 ‘ The Hopes you give, that I am to cor-
 ‘ respond with Mr. *Vernon*, makes me
 ‘ more easy than I should have been.

‘ The Ambassador of *Savoy* was with
 ‘ me, to let me know, that the Duke his
 ‘ Master had ordered Monsieur *de la Tour*,
 ‘ who

‘ who was formerly his Envoy in *England*,
‘ to return thither with the same Cha-
‘ racter. This will cause a great Discourse,
‘ because he was his chief Minister: But
‘ the Reason why he comes is not hard
‘ to guess. I was in hopes to have heard
‘ something concerning Sir, &c. whose
‘ Letter I sent lately to *England*. As
‘ soon as I hear from my Lord *Jersey*, I
‘ shall not fear to congratulate with him.

I am, &c.

MANCHESTER.

Mr. PRIOR was not fond of writing Letters, when it was no longer a Part of his Business. We have only one more of his to Lord *Manchester*, and that above half a Year after his last. As it relates chiefly to the State of Affairs in that troublesome Winter, it will lead us to take a more particular View of some Matters therein mentioned, and others that are omitted.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

My Lord,

Dec. 10, 1700. O.S.

‘ I AM indebted to my good Lord
‘ *Manchester* for two or three Letters;
‘ and it would be unreasonable, if I did

The HISTORY of

‘ not take the Opportunity of Mr. *Chet-*
 ‘ *wynd’s* Return, to tell your Lordship
 ‘ what I know of the State of Things
 ‘ here. That we shall have a new Par-
 ‘ liament, is, I think, certain; at least as
 ‘ far as I can see into the Matter. What
 ‘ Sort of Parliament it may prove, I can-
 ‘ not any ways foresee; but sure there
 ‘ never was so much Work, as at present,
 ‘ in securing Parties and bribing Elections.
 ‘ Whig and Tory are railing, on both
 ‘ Sides, so violent, that the Government
 ‘ may easily be over-turned by the Mad-
 ‘ nefs of either Faction. We take it to
 ‘ be our Play to do nothing against com-
 ‘ mon Sense or common Law, and to be
 ‘ for those who will support the Crown,
 ‘ rather than oblige either Party; and in
 ‘ order to this, Men are preferred who
 ‘ are looked upon to be honest and mo-
 ‘ derate. In this Number (whether with
 ‘ Reason or not, Time must decide) we
 ‘ comprehend our * Lord-keeper and our
 ‘ new † Secretary. Lord *Rochester* and
 ‘ Lord *Godolphin* are in the Cabinet-Coun-
 ‘ cil; the latter is at the Head of the
 ‘ Treasury; the former (we take it for
 ‘ granted) is to go Lord-Lieutenant of
 ‘ *Ireland*, though it be yet a || Secret.

* Sir *Nathan Wright*.

† Sir *Charles Hedges*.

|| It was not a Secret long.

' The * two Companies are to be brought
 ' to an Agreement (if possible), and Mr.
 ' † *Montague's* being made a Peer (we
 ' take it for granted) may contribute to this
 ' Union ; since, being in the House of
 ' Commons, he would make an ill Figure,
 ' if he either declined to support the new,
 ' or should find too great an Opposition in
 ' his endeavouring so to do. As to the ||
 ' Great Affair, I presume the King will
 ' wholly defer it to the Parliament, and
 ' act conjointly with their Consent ; which
 ' I take to be the only Method. All that
 ' I can say more on this Head, is, that I
 ' take it to be happy for the King, that
 ' the Will is preferred by the *French*, at
 ' a Time when every Body was peevishi
 ' against the Court (though with Reason
 ' God knows) about the Treaty. Count
 ' *Tallard* makes a foolish Figure here : I
 ' do not know, as yet, what he says to
 ' the King on this Occasion ; but every
 ' Body observes his Excellency to be very
 ' melancholy and desponding ; and one
 ' may judge he has Reason to be so, as
 ' to his own Particular, concerning the
 ' Part he has been made to act, however
 ' his Country in general may approve their
 ' Monarch's Breach of Truth and Treaty.

* The *East-India* Companies.

† Earl of *Halli-*

fax. || The *Spanish* Succession.

The HISTORY of

‘ This I think is the present Figure of our
 ‘ Affairs, which I am glad to write to
 ‘ so good a Friend as my Lord *Manchester*;
 ‘ though to most of the World here,
 ‘ I am of Opinion that to say least is to
 ‘ do best. Your Friend my Lord *Jersey*
 ‘ grows very much a Minister, and is in
 ‘ a fair Way of being very great. As to
 ‘ my own Affairs, I have a great many
 ‘ Friends who would set me up at *Cam-*
 ‘ *bridge*: I know I shall find great Oppo-
 ‘ sition from Mr. *Hammond*’s Party there,
 ‘ and great Trouble, in case I should throw
 ‘ him out, from those Men, who will
 ‘ never be satisfied, let me act as I will or
 ‘ can. If your Lordship thinks it con-
 ‘ venient, I know you will not refuse me
 ‘ your Letter to the University. My Lord
 ‘ *Sandwich* is gone to *Hinchinbrook*, I
 ‘ hear, in order to set up *Charles Boyle* a-
 ‘ gainst Mr. *Wortley Montague*’s Interest
 ‘ at *Huntington*: *Vive la Guerre*, whoso-
 ‘ ever is chosen or cast out, or on what
 ‘ Side soever Things turn.

I am, most truly, &c.

M. PRIOR,

P. S. ‘ Though I am no longer in a Se-
 ‘ cretary’s Office, Venison would not poi-
 ‘ son a Commissioner of Commerce, and
 ‘ Does

‘ Does are now in Season; which it may
‘ be useful to inform Mr. *Woolaston* of,
‘ when next your Lordship writes to him.

We have here an Account of Mr. PRIOR's political Principles under his own Hand. ‘ He went with the Honest and Moderate,’ and was ‘ rather for supporting the Crown, ‘ than obliging either Party.’ This was undoubtedly to pursue the true Interest of his Country, at a Time when ‘ Whig and Tory, as he expresses it, were both so violent, that the Government might easily have been overturned by the Madness of either Faction.’ It has all along been owing to Men of this true *British* Spirit, that the Revolution has been supported on its original Foundation.

Notwithstanding the Zeal of Mr. PRIOR's Friends to get him chosen for *Cambridge*, he made himself a Candidate for *East* Mr. PRI-
OR chosen
a Member
of Parlia-
ment. *Grinstead* in *Suffex*, and was there elected. The Parliament met on the 6th of *Fe-*
bruary 170 $\frac{2}{3}$, and chose *Robert Harley*,
Esq; afterwards *Earl of Oxford*, their
Speaker. We must give the History of
the most material Transactions in this re-
markable Session.

While the King was in *Holland* the 1700.
Duke of
Gloucester's Death
and set-
tling of the
Succession,
at
preceding Summer, the Nation was sensi-
bly afflicted by the Duke of *Gloucester's*
Death: But Means were happily found,

at the Meeting of the new Parliament, to repair that public Loss, and secure the Protestant Interest in these Kingdoms, by settling the Succession in the present illustrious Royal Family. This Affair was concerted at *Loo*, whither the Prince chiefly concerned came to visit his Majesty, soon after the Duke of *Gloucester's* Death. The King, however, in his Speech to both Houses, did not so much as hint at the Person he was desirous to favour on this Occasion; though he very earnestly press'd the making of some Provision for extending the Succession in a Protestant Family. But the Parliament, no doubt, were informed of what had previously been transacted; and the lineal Right of the House of *Hanover*, when all Papists were excluded, was too apparent to be pass'd over.

Precau-
tion of the
Parlia-
ment.

It is worth while, in this Place, to take notice of the new Limitations of the Crown, which an *English* Parliament, always jealous of the People's Liberties while itself is free, thought proper to add to those that had been already made. The Advantages gain'd by the Revolution, though very many and great, the Commons did not think sufficient for our perpetual Security. Kings and Ministers, they knew, were Men of the like Passions with themselves; and if the favourite Passion

of

of any Future Ones should be to extend the Prerogative, or take any Measures that were inconsistent with the true Interest of the People, they thought too much Precaution could not be had to prevent its taking Effect. Yet tho' always watchful over the People's Rights, they are ever apt enough to make Concessions, to a Prince in whom they can confide: Witness their giving up many of the following Restrictions, upon the Arrival of his late Majesty, who they trusted would make no ill Use of any Part of his Prerogative.

‘ I. That all Things relating to the well-governing of this Kingdom, which are properly cognizable in the Privy-Council, shall be transacted there; and all Resolutions taken thereupon shall be signed by the Privy-Council.

Articles of
Limita-
tion of the
Crown.

‘ II. That no Person whatsoever, who is not a Native of *England*, *Scotland*, or *Ireland*, or the Dominions thereto belonging, or who is not born of *English* Parents beyond the Seas, shall be capable of any Grants of Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments from the Crown to himself.

‘ III.

‘ III. That in case the Crown shall
‘ come to any Person not a Native of
‘ *England*, this Nation shall not be obliged
‘ to engage in any War for the Defence
‘ of Dominions not belonging to the Crown
‘ of *England*, without the Consent of Par-
‘ liament.

‘ IV. That whosoever shall hereafter
‘ come to the Possession of this Crown,
‘ shall join in Communion with the Church
‘ of *England*, as by Law established.

‘ V. That no Pardon be pleadable to
‘ any Impeachment in Parliament.

‘ VI. That no Person who shall hereafter
‘ come to the Possession of this Crown,
‘ shall go out of the Dominions of *En-
‘ gland, Scotland, or Ireland*, without
‘ Consent of Parliament.

‘ VII. That no Person who has any
‘ Office under the King, or receives a
‘ Pension from the Crown, shall be ca-
‘ pable of serving as a Member of the
‘ House of Commons.

‘ VIII. That farther Provision be made
‘ for the confirming of all Laws and Sta-
‘ tutes, for the securing our Religion, and
‘ the Rights and Liberties of the People.

‘ IX.

‘ IX. That Judges Commissions be
‘ made *quam diu se bene gesserint*, and
‘ their Salaries ascertained; but, upon the
‘ Address of either House of Parliament,
‘ it may be lawful to remove them.

‘ X. That the Princess *Sophia*, Dutches
‘ Dowager of *Hanover*, be declared the
‘ next in Succession to the Crown of *En-*
‘ *gland*, in the Protestant Line, after his
‘ Majesty and the Princess, &c.’

But the Event of this Year that most immediately regards Mr. PRIOR's History, was the Death of the King of *Spain*, and the fatal Consequences of the *French* King's Ambition, which now laid the Foundation of the long War that followed. That Prince's promoting the Treaties of Partition, I have before observed, was only to amuse the neighbouring Powers, especially His *Britannic* Majesty, and prevent their keeping a strict Watch over his Proceedings, while he made all the necessary Advances for putting his Designs in Execution. The second Treaty had been proposed, according to Agreement between the contracting Parties, to other Courts, for their Acceptance and Guaranty. But it was thought so strange and unprecedented an Affair, that it does not appear any one

King of *Spain*'s Death, and the Consequences of it.

one Prince accepted of it. The Emperor in particular thought himself aggrieved, because he had a Right to the whole *Spanish* Monarchy.

King WILLIAM and the States had certainly no other View in this Treaty, but to establish the Peace and Tranquillity of *Europe*, and to form a Barrier in the *Netherlands*, for the Security of the United Provinces: But the *French* had very different Designs; which they clandestinely carried on. They procured a Will from the dying King, signed the 2d of *October* N. S. which constituted the Duke of *Anjou*, second Son to the Dauphin, his universal Heir, in default of Issue; and made other Provisions for continuing the Succession. This memorable Will was the Contrivance of the Marquis *d'Harcourt* and Cardinal *Portocarrero*, and the King survived it but barely a Month, dying on the first of *November*.

Duke of
Anjou pro-
claimed.

A Copy of this Will being sent to the Court of *France*, his most Christian Majesty seemed to be in suspense, whether he should accept it, or observe the Treaty of Partition. But this was a Feint only; for he did not long waver in his Resolution. On the 16th of *November* the Duke of *Anjou* was declared King of *Spain* in the *French* Court, and proclaimed at *Madrid* on the 24th of the same Month.

The

The new elected Pope, *Clement XI*, and the Emperor, protested against this Step. The *English* and *Dutch* Ministers likewise represented, That it was not agreeable to the Treaty of Partition, so lately signed. But the *French* King answered, ‘ That the
‘ principal Design of that Treaty being to
‘ prevent the Union of the Kingdoms of
‘ *France* and *Spain* under one Sovereign,
‘ this was effectually provided for by the
‘ Will; the Heirs of the Duke of *Anjou*
‘ being rendered incapable of the Crown
‘ of *Spain*, if they succeeded to that of
‘ *France*: So that the Spirit and Inten-
‘ tion of the Treaty was still complied
‘ with, though it might be contrary to
‘ the Letter of it.’ Adding, ‘ That his
‘ Grandson’s Title by the Will accruing
‘ since that Treaty, could not be affected
‘ by it.’ This was *French* Sophistry with a Witness, and in the true Spirit of *LEWIS* the XIVth, who, while he was thus glossing over his Treachery, had two remarkable Instruments drawn up at *Paris*, to preserve the Duke of *Anjou*’s Title to the Crown of *France*, in case his elder Brother died without Male, which by the Salic Law is the only heritable, Issue.

The Duke of *Bavaria*, Governor of the *Spanish Netherlands*, yielding up at the same Time all the Towns and Fortresses in that Country to the *French* King,
with

with their Garrisons, which were partly composed of *Dutch* Troops, the States, rather than enter into an immediate War, while their Frontiers were exposed, and run the Hazard of losing those Forces that were in the *Spanish* Towns, thought fit to acknowledge the Duke of *Anjou* for King of *Spain*: Whereupon the *French* suffered the *Dutch* Troops in *Flanders* to return home, without Molestation.

The new Parliament, as before related, being met, the Lords, foreseeing the Consequences of the late Revolution upon the King of *Spain*'s Death, addressed his Majesty, ' That he would enter into all Alliances with such foreign Powers as were willing to unite for the Preservation of the Ballance of Power in *Europe*.' All Things now seemed advancing to a Crisis; and as the Transactions in Parliament, which immediately followed, have the most strict Connexion with the foregoing Parts of this History, I shall give them in the Words of one of our * Historians, who appears to have related them the most concisely.

' On the 18th of *March* his Majesty sent a Message to the Commons by Mr. Secretary *Hedges*, to acquaint them, that

* Mr. *Salmon*.

Mr. Stanhope, his Envoy at the *Hague*, having transmitted to his Majesty Copies of the Demands made by himself, and the Deputies of the States, to the *French* Ambassador, he had thought fit to communicate the same to the Commons, intending to acquaint them from Time to Time with the Progress of those Negotiations.

By the Memorials mentioned in the King's Message, the *English* and *Dutch* Ministers demanded of the *French* Ambassador, that his Master should withdraw his Troops out of the *Spanish Netherlands*, and allow a sufficient Barrier for the Security of *England* and the States-General; to which that Ambassador did not think fit to return any Answer.

A Barrier demanded by the *English* and *Dutch*.

The Commons, having considered the King's Message, and the Treaty of Partition, at the same Time presented his Majesty an Address; wherein they thanked him for his gracious Message, and represented the ill Consequences of a Treaty of Partition (pass'd under the Great Seal during a Session of Parliament, and without the Advice of the same) to this Kingdom, and the Peace of *Europe*, whereby such large Territories of the King of *Spain's* Dominions

The Commons address against the Partition Treaty.

‘ were to be delivered up to the *French*
 ‘ King.

‘ His Majesty took no notice of the
 ‘ Partition Treaty in his Answer to the
 ‘ Commons; only told them, he was
 ‘ glad they were pleased with his com-
 ‘ municating to them the State of the
 ‘ Negotiations, which he should continue
 ‘ to inform them of, and receive their
 ‘ Advice thereupon; being persuaded, no-
 ‘ thing could contribute more to the Hap-
 ‘ piness of this Kingdom, and the Peace
 ‘ of *Europe*, than the Concurrence of the
 ‘ Parliament in all his Negotiations, and
 ‘ a good Understanding between him and
 ‘ his People.

The Lords
 address a-
 gainst the
 Treaty of
 Partition.

‘ The House of Peers had, two or
 ‘ three Days before, *viz.* on the 20th
 ‘ of *March*, presented an Address to his
 ‘ Majesty, declaring their Sense of a Par-
 ‘ tition Treaty; wherein they represent to
 ‘ his Majesty, that having read and con-
 ‘ sidered the said Treaty of the 3d of
 ‘ *March*, 1700, N. S. made with the
 ‘ *French* King, together with the separate
 ‘ and secret Articles which he had been
 ‘ pleas’d to communicate to them, they
 ‘ had, to their great Sorrow, found the
 ‘ Matters thereof would be of very ill
 ‘ Consequence to the Peace and Safety of
 ‘ *Europe*; for that, besides the Occasion
 ‘ it might have given the late King of
 ‘ *Spain*

Spain to have made his Will in favour of the Duke of *Anjou*; if that Treaty had taken Effect, the Prejudice to his Majesty and his Subjects, and indeed to all *Europe*, by the Addition of *Sicily*, *Naples*, several Ports of the *Mediterranean*, the Province of *Guipuscoa*, and the Dutchy of *Lorain*, had been not only very great, but contrary to the Presence of the Treaty itself, which was to prevent any Umbrage that might have been taken, by uniting so many States and Dominions under one Head: That by all the Informations they had had of the fatal Treaty, they could not find, that the verbal Orders or Instructions (if any were given to his Majesty's Plenipotentiaries) were ever considered in any of his Majesty's Councils, or that the Draught of that Treaty had ever been laid before his Majesty at any Meeting of his Council, much less that it was advised or approved of by any Council or Committee of Council: Wherefore they thought themselves bound in Duty to his Majesty, and Justice to their Country, most humbly to beseech him, that for the future he would be pleased to require and admit, in all Matters of Importance, the Advice of his natural-born Subjects, whose known Probity and Fortunes might make him and his People

Censure the negotiating it without the Advice of the Council.

‘ a just Assurance of their Fidelity to his
‘ Service; and that in order thereunto, he
‘ would be pleased to constitute a Council
‘ of such Persons, to whom his Majesty
‘ might be pleased to impart all Affairs,
‘ both at home and abroad, which might
‘ any way concern him and his Dominions:
‘ For, as Interest, and natural Affection
‘ to their Country, would incline them
‘ to wish the Welfare and Prosperity of it,
‘ much more than others who had no such
‘ Ties upon them; and as their Experi-
‘ ence and Knowledge of their Country
‘ would also render them more capable
‘ than Strangers of advising his Majesty
‘ in the true Interest of it; so they were
‘ confident, that after such large and re-
‘ peated Demonstrations of his Subjects
‘ Duty and Affection, his Majesty could
‘ not doubt of their Zeal in his Service,
‘ nor want the Knowledge of Persons fit
‘ to be employed in all his most secret and
‘ arduous Affairs: And that since it ap-
‘ peared the *French* King’s accepting of
‘ the King of *Spain*’s Will, was a mani-
‘ fest Violation of that Treaty, they
‘ humbly advised his Majesty, in future
‘ Treaties with that Prince, to proceed
‘ with such Caution, as might carry a
‘ real Security.

‘ His

‘ His Majesty, having received the Lords ^{The}
 ‘ Address, answered, That it contained ^{King's}
 ‘ Matters of very great Moment, and he ^{Answer}
 ‘ would always take care, that all Trea- ^{to it.}
 ‘ ties he made should be for the Honour
 ‘ and Safety of *England*.

‘ Soon after this, the Earl of *Portland* ^{The Earl}
 ‘ being charged directly in the House of ^{of Port-}
 ‘ Peers with negotiating the said Treaty, ^{land}
 ‘ his Lordship said in his Excuse, That ^{charged}
 ‘ the Earls of *Pembroke, Jersey, and Marl-* ^{with mak-}
 ‘ *borough,* the Lords *Somers, Lonsdale,* ^{ing this}
 ‘ and *Halifax,* had their Share in that ^{Treaty,}
 ‘ Negotiation: To which those Peers re- ^{and Lord}
 ‘ plied, They did acknowledge they had ^{*Somers,*}
 ‘ seen the Draught of the Treaty; but ^{*Halifax,*}
 ‘ that the Earl of *Portland* had drawn it ^{&c. with}
 ‘ up himself in *French,* and they had ne- ^{advising it.}
 ‘ ver given nor refused their Consent to
 ‘ it, because the Treaty was never com-
 ‘ municated to the Privy-Council. Ma-
 ‘ ny warm Speeches were made upon this
 ‘ Occasion, reflecting upon the Court :
 ‘ Nor did the House of Commons less
 ‘ resent the huddling up those Treaties in
 ‘ the dark, than the House of Peers: Mr.
 ‘ *How,* particularly, said, that the Parti-
 ‘ tion Treaty was a felonious Treaty; com-
 ‘ paring it to the Distribution of other
 ‘ Mens Goods amongst Highwaymen.

‘ While the Houses were engaged in
 ‘ these angry Debates, the King sent an-

The Eng-
lish and
Dutch de-
mand Sa-
tisfaction
for the
Emperor,
as well as
a Barrier.

‘ other Message to the Commons the 30th
‘ of *March*, acquainting them, that Mr.
‘ *Stanbope* had delivered another Memo-
‘ rial to the *French* Ambassador at the
‘ *Hague*, requiring, that reasonable Satis-
‘ faction should be given to the Emperor
‘ upon his Pretensions to the *Spanish* Suc-
‘ cession: That the *French* King, by a
‘ short and limited Time, should with-
‘ draw all his Troops out of the *Spanish*
‘ *Netherlands*, and that the Towns there
‘ should be garrisoned by *Walloon* or *Ne-*
‘ *therland* Troops, except such Places as
‘ were reserved for the Security of *England*
‘ and *Holland*: That for the particular Se-
‘ curity of *England* *Ostend* and *Newport*,
‘ should be garrisoned by *English* Forces:
‘ That no Places belonging to *Spain*, should
‘ ever be alienated or transferred to *France*,
‘ or come under the Power of the *French*
‘ King: That the Subjects of *England*
‘ should have the same Privileges within the
‘ *Spanish* Dominions, as at the King of
‘ *Spain*’s Death, and be upon the same foot,
‘ with respect to Trade in the *Spanish* Do-
‘ minions, as the *French*: That *France* and
‘ *Spain* should solemnly engage to observe
‘ these Particulars; and that the Treaty
‘ should be guaranteed by such Powers, as
‘ the contracting Parties should desire.

‘ That the *Dutch* had presented a Me-
‘ morial of the same Tenor; wherein
‘ they

‘ they had demanded *Venlo, Ruremond,*
 ‘ *Stevenfwaert, Luxemburg, Namur, Char-*
 ‘ *leroy, Mons, Dendermonde, Damme,*
 ‘ and *St. Denys*, for their Barrier.

‘ But that the *French* Ambassador had
 ‘ given the Ministers of *England* and *Hol-*
 ‘ *land* no other Answer, than that his

The Answer of the
French.

‘ Master would observe the Peace of *Rys-*
 ‘ *wick*; they must expect no other Secu-

‘ rity. That his Majesty also had received
 ‘ a Memorial from the States, desiring
 ‘ him to hasten the Succours *England* had

The States
desire the
English
Succours.

‘ agreed to send them by the Treaty of
 ‘ the 3d of *March*, 1677: Upon all which,
 ‘ his Majesty desired the Commons would

Upon
which, the
King de-
mands the
Advice of
the Com-
mons.

‘ give him such Advice, as might be for
 ‘ their own Security, that of the States-
 ‘ General, and the Peace of *Europe*.

‘ The House, taking this Message into
 ‘ their Consideration on the 2d of *April*,

They de-
sire him to
act in con-
cert with
the *Dutch*.

‘ resolved, unanimously, to advise his Ma-
 ‘ jesty to carry on the Negotiations in
 ‘ concert with the States-General, and take

And pro-
mise to
support
him.

‘ such Measures therein, as might most
 ‘ conduce to their Security: And that
 ‘ his Majesty would pursue the Treaty

‘ made with the States-General the 3d of
 ‘ *March*, 1677; assuring him, that this
 ‘ House would effectually enable him to

‘ support the said Treaty of 1677: Where-
 ‘ upon the King thank'd them for the
 ‘ Assurance they had given him, and said,

‘ He did not doubt but the Readiness they
 ‘ had shewn on this Occasion, would very
 ‘ much contribute to the obtaining such
 ‘ a Security as was desired.

‘ His Majesty observing, however, that
 ‘ though the Commons were very ready
 ‘ to assist both the *Dutch* and the Empe-
 ‘ ror, to obtain a sufficient Barrier against
 ‘ *France*, yet they did not at all incline
 ‘ to the entering into a War, for the Re-
 ‘ covery of the Kingdom of *Spain* from
 ‘ the Duke of *Anjou*, thought fit, after
 ‘ he had thoroughly weigh’d all Circum-
 ‘ stances, to acknowledge the Duke’s Ti-
 ‘ tle to the Crown of *Spain*, and con-
 ‘ gratulate him on his Accession, by the
 ‘ following Letter, viz.

*Most Serene and Potent Prince, our dear
 Brother and Aliy.*

The King
 acknow-
 ledges the
 Duke of
Anjou K.
 of *Spain*,
 and con-
 gratulates
 his Acces-
 sion.

‘ **W**E have received your Majesty’s
 ‘ Letter of the 24th of *March*
 ‘ last, which has been very acceptable to
 ‘ us upon many Accounts: First, because
 ‘ it brought us Notice of your safe Arri-
 ‘ val into your Kingdom of *Spain*, and
 ‘ of your coming to the Possession of it,
 ‘ and taking upon yourself the Govern-
 ‘ ment of the Dominions thereunto be-
 ‘ longing: And in the second Place, be-
 ‘ cause they have made it plain to us,
 ‘ that

‘ that your Majesty hath a Mind to con-
‘ tinue, and keep inviolably, that most
‘ antient Alliance which is between the
‘ two Crowns. Indeed, we have willingly
‘ embraced this Occasion, both to congra-
‘ tulate your Majesty’s happy Exaltation
‘ to the *Spanish* Throne, and to shew you
‘ how much Esteem we have for your Ma-
‘ jesty, and how much we desire to make
‘ it appear to you, that our Inclination doth
‘ most readily prompt us to endeavour
‘ what we can, that the mutual Conjun-
‘ tion of Friendship and Alliance between
‘ us may be confirmed and knit faster,
‘ and the common Good of the two Na-
‘ tions may daily more and more flourish
‘ and be promoted; which we hope also
‘ will redound to the public Benefit and
‘ Good of all *Europe*: What remains, is
‘ to commend and commit your Majesty
‘ to the Care and Protection of Almighty
‘ God.

*Given at our Palace at Kensington, the
17th Day of April, 1701, and the
13th Year of the Reign of your Ma-
jesty’s most loving Brother and Ally.*

Sign’d,

GULIELMUS REX.

‘ The King of *England*, as well as the
‘ States, having now recogniz’d *Philip*
‘ King of *Spain*, the Conferences at the
‘ *Hague*

The HISTORY of

‘ *Hague* were resumed between the *English*
 ‘ and *Dutch* Ministers, and Monsieur
 ‘ *D’Avaux*, the *French* Ambassador there,
 ‘ for settling a Barrier, pursuant to the
 ‘ Advice the Commons had given his Ma-
 ‘ jesty.

‘ The Earl
 ‘ of *Portland*
 ‘ impeach’d
 ‘ for negoti-
 ‘ ating the
 ‘ Partition
 ‘ Treaty.

‘ In the mean Time the Commons con-
 ‘ tinued to consider the Partition Treaty,
 ‘ and who were the Advisers of it; and
 ‘ in the Beginning of *April* came to a
 ‘ Resolution, *That* William, *Earl of Port-*
 ‘ land, *by negotiating and concluding the*
 ‘ *Treaty of Partition, which was destruc-*
 ‘ *tive to the Trade of this Kingdom,*
 ‘ *and dangerous to the Peace of Europe,*
 ‘ *was guilty, and should be impeached, of*
 ‘ *high Crimes and Misdemeanours;* and Sir
 ‘ *John Levison Gower*, by Order of the
 ‘ House, went up to the Lords Bar, and
 ‘ there impeached the said Earl, acquaint-
 ‘ ing them, that they would in due Time
 ‘ exhibit Articles against him: Immedi-
 ‘ ately after which, the Commons, at a
 ‘ Conference, desired their Lordships to
 ‘ communicate to them what Informa-
 ‘ tions their Lordships had received, of
 ‘ any Transactions relating to the Negoti-
 ‘ ations or Treaties of Partition of the
 ‘ *Spanish* Monarchy: Whereupon their
 ‘ Lordships delivered to them the two
 ‘ *Latin* Commissions of Powers, granted
 ‘ to the Earls of *Portland* and *Fersey*, for
 ‘ ne-

negotiating the said Treaties, the one dated the first of July, 1699, the other the 2d of January, 1700: As also a private Paper of the Lord Portland's, in which Secretary Vernon advises him to negotiate the first Treaty.

On the 14th of April, the Commons being in a Debate, whether they should impeach the Lord Somers for advising the said Treaty, that Lord desired to be heard before they came to any Resolution, and was admitted into the House, where he made an Apology for his Conduct; but being withdrawn, the Commons came to a Resolution, That John Lord Somers, by advising his Majesty, in the Year 1698, to the Treaty for Partition of the Spanish Monarchy, whereby large Territories of the King of Spain's Dominions were to be delivered up to France, was guilty of a high Crime and Misdemeanor; and Mr. Harcourt, accordingly, by the Command of the Commons, impeached that Lord at the Bar of the House of Lords, declaring, that the House would in due Time exhibit Articles against him.

Lord Somers impeach'd for advising the Partition Treaty.

The Lord Somers, at his Hearing before the Commons, delivered the Copies of two Letters to the House; the first of which he received from the King, desiring his Advice in the first Treaty

of

‘ of Partition; and the second was his Lord-
 ‘ ship’s Answer to it.’ These Letters I have
 before inserted in their * proper Place.

The Com-
 mons ad-
 dress his
 Majesty to
 remove
 the Lords
Somers,
Portland,
Halifax,
 and *Or-*
ford, from
 his Coun-
 cils.

‘ The Commons proceeded, on the 23d
 ‘ of *April*, to present an Address to his
 ‘ Majesty; wherein they represent the
 ‘ great Satisfaction they had in their En-
 ‘ quiry concerning the Treaty of Parti-
 ‘ tion made in 1698 (on which the Trea-
 ‘ ty in 1699 was founded) to observe his
 ‘ Majesty’s Care in not entering on that
 ‘ Negotiation without the Advice of his
 ‘ *English* Counsellors; and finding, that
 ‘ *John* Lord *Somers*, on whose Judgment
 ‘ his Majesty chiefly relied in that impor-
 ‘ tant Affair, did, in concert with *Edward*
 ‘ Earl of *Orford*, and *Charles* Lord *Ha-*
 ‘ *lifax*, advise his Majesty to enter into
 ‘ that Treaty of such dangerous Conse-
 ‘ quence, without the Advice of his Coun-
 ‘ cil; that they might no longer be able
 ‘ to deceive his Majesty, and abuse his
 ‘ People, they desired he would be pleased
 ‘ to remove the said *John* Lord *Somers*,
 ‘ *Edward* Earl of *Orford*, and *Charles*
 ‘ Lord *Halifax*, from his Council and Pre-
 ‘ sence for ever; as also *William* Earl of
 ‘ *Portland*, who translated those Treaties;
 ‘ and concluded with repeating their As-
 ‘ surances to stand by and support his Ma-
 ‘ jesty to the utmost of their Power.

* See Page 45.

‘ To which his Majesty answered, He
 ‘ thanked them for their Assurances of
 ‘ supporting him, and should employ none
 ‘ in his Service, but such as were like to
 ‘ improve that mutual Trust and Confi-
 ‘ dence between them, which was so ne-
 ‘ cessary at that Conjunction for their Se-
 ‘ curity, and the Preservation of their
 ‘ Allies.

‘ On the contrary, the House of Lords
 ‘ (in which the Courtiers had had a Ma-
 ‘ jority for some Time) though they had
 ‘ themselves said very hard Things of the
 ‘ Partition-Treaty, and the Manner of
 ‘ transacting it, in their Address; yet, in
 ‘ behalf of these their favourite Brethren,
 ‘ they now presented an Address of an-
 ‘ other Strain; wherein they beseech his
 ‘ Majesty not to pass any Censure on those
 ‘ Lords, until they were tried upon the
 ‘ Impeachments the Commons had pre-
 ‘ ferred against them. Thus Matters
 ‘ rested till the 5th of May, when the
 ‘ Lords sent a Message to the Commons,
 ‘ to remind them that there were yet no
 ‘ Articles preferred against the impeached
 ‘ Lords; whereupon the Commons, on
 ‘ the 9th of the same Month, sent up
 ‘ Articles against *Edward Earl of Or-*
 ‘ *ford*, in Maintenance of their Impeach-
 ‘ ment.

The
 House of
 Peers ad-
 dress the
 King not
 to remove
 those
 Lords.

They re-
 mind the
 Commons
 that no Ar-
 ticles were
 sent up a-
 gainst the
 impeach-
 ed Lords.

Articles against the Earl of Orford.

‘ The Articles against the Earl of *Orford* set forth, That he, preferring his private Interest to the publick Good, had, during an expensive War, procured several Grants from his Majesty of Lands and exorbitant Sums of Money: That while he commanded the Royal Navy in the *Streights*, he received the public Money, and converted it to his private Use, and then procured a Privy-Seal to discharge him of it: That he received considerable Sums from the King of *Spain* also, with great Quantities of Wine, Oil, and other Provisions for the Fleet, which he converted to his own Use: That he sold and disposed of several Vessels as Prizes without Condemnation: That, presiding in the Commission of Lord High-Admiral, he had rejected the Request of the *East-India* Company for suppressing Pirates, and had procured a Commission for *William Kidd*, who had committed Piracy, encouraged thereto by his Hopes of the Earl’s Protection: That while he commanded the Royal Navy, he lost several Opportunities of destroying the Enemy’s Ships, and that he advised the King to enter into the Treaty of Partition, which was prejudicial to the Nation; with some other Things of less Moment.

‘ To which the Earl answered, That The Earl's Answer.
 ‘ his Majesty, in Consideration of his Ser-
 ‘ vices for many Years, had voluntarily
 ‘ made him a reversionary Grant for the
 ‘ Value of about ten thousand Pounds:
 ‘ That he had legally pass'd his Accounts
 ‘ for all Monies he had received on ac-
 ‘ count of the Public: That whatever he
 ‘ received of the King of *Spain* for the
 ‘ Fleet, was duly distributed among the
 ‘ Seamen: That he constantly gave Orders
 ‘ for proceeding against the Prizes that
 ‘ were taken according to Law: That
 ‘ he never discouraged the *East-India*
 ‘ Company's Request for the suppressing of
 ‘ Pirates: That *Kidd's* Commission was
 ‘ granted according to Law, and intended
 ‘ for the public Good; and, if he had
 ‘ committed Piracy, he was never encou-
 ‘ raged in it by the Earl: That he had
 ‘ not neglected his Duty against the Ene-
 ‘ my; and, considering his Services against
 ‘ the *French* Fleet, he did not expect to
 ‘ be charged therewith: And denies, that
 ‘ he advised his Majesty to enter into the
 ‘ Partition Treaty, for he objected to it,
 ‘ he averred, and gave his Opinion against
 ‘ the same.

‘ The Commons also on the 19th of Articles against the Lord Somers.
 ‘ *May*, sent up Articles against the Lord
 ‘ *Somers*; wherein they charge him with
 ‘ advising the Partition Treaties, and pas-
 ‘ sing,

‘ sing, both the Powers to treat, and the
 ‘ Treaties themselves, under the Great
 ‘ Seal, without the Knowledge of the
 ‘ Council or the other Lords-Justices, leav-
 ‘ ing one entire Blank Sheet, with several
 ‘ other Blanks to be filled up, as well in
 ‘ the Commissions and Powers, for nego-
 ‘ tiating the said Treaties, as in the Trea-
 ‘ ties themselves; neither did he enroll
 ‘ them in Chancery, as the Law required:
 ‘ That he passed many unreasonable Grants
 ‘ under the Broad Seal, and advised and
 ‘ procured divers Grants of the forfeited
 ‘ Estates in *Ireland*: That besides the Fees
 ‘ and Perquisites of his Office, he procured
 ‘ a Pension of 4000 *l. per Annum*, and
 ‘ several other unreasonable Grants for his
 ‘ own Benefit, in which his Majesty was
 ‘ deceived: That he had procured a Com-
 ‘ mission for *William Kidd*, a Person of
 ‘ ill Fame, who had turned Pirate, and
 ‘ procured a Grant for himself and some
 ‘ others, in feigned Names, of such Vessels
 ‘ and Goods as he should take: That he
 ‘ had made illegal and unwarrantable Or-
 ‘ ders, while Chancellor, with some other
 ‘ Matters of less Moment.

Lord So-
 mer's An-
 swer.

‘ To which he answered, That he had,
 ‘ according to his Duty, given the King
 ‘ his Opinion freely on the Partition-Trea-
 ‘ ties, and had his Majesty's Letters for
 ‘ his Warrants in setting the Great Seal
 ‘ to

' to the said Commissions and Treaties:
 ' That it was not incumbent upon him,
 ' as Lord Chancellor, to see the said Com-
 ' missions or Treaties enroll'd; but the
 ' Care of it belong'd to the Prothonotary
 ' of the Court of Chancery: That he ne-
 ' ver pass'd any Grants without sufficient
 ' Warrants, and that more considerable
 ' Grants had pass'd in the Times of his
 ' Predecessors: That the annual Pension
 ' of 4000 *l. per Annum* had been allowed
 ' to other Chancellors: That he never
 ' begg'd any Grant; but what he had re-
 ' ceived, was given him voluntarily by his
 ' Majesty, in Consideration of his Services:
 ' That the Commission to Captain *Kidd*,
 ' was then thought necessary for the Pre-
 ' servation of Trade and Navigation. He
 ' acknowledges, that *Samuel Newton's*
 ' Name in the Grant of the Vessels and
 ' Goods that should be taken by *Kidd*, was
 ' used in Trust for him (the Lord *Somers*);
 ' but that *Kidd*, having abused his Com-
 ' mission and turn'd Pirate, his Employ-
 ' ers had lost their Expences, instead of
 ' making any Gain by sending him out.

' The Articles against *Charles Lord Ha-* The Arti-
 ' *lifax* set forth, That whereas the Com- cles a-
 ' mons had thought it reasonable to apply gainst the
 ' the forfeited Estates in *Ireland* to the Use Lord *Ha-*
 ' of the Publick, he had procured a Grant *lifax*.
 ' of several Sums forfeited to the Crown
 P in

' in that Kingdom, amounting to 13000*l.*
 ' That he had procured several Grants
 ' also in *England*; particularly a Grant
 ' of 14000*l.* to be raised out of scrub-
 ' bed Beech, Birch, Holly, &c. grow-
 ' ing in his Majesty's Forests; under co-
 ' lour whereof, he had cut down and
 ' sold for his own Benefit sappling Oaks,
 ' and many Tons of well-grown Timber :
 ' That he procured several Offices and
 ' Places in the Treasury and Exchequer,
 ' which he enjoyed at the same Time,
 ' though they were manifestly inconsistent,
 ' and ought to have been a Check on each
 ' other: And lastly, that he advised the
 ' Partition Treaties.

The Lord
Halifax's
 Answer.

' To this the Lord *Halifax* answered,
 ' That he did accept a Grant of Debts,
 ' &c. forfeited to the Crown in *Ireland*,
 ' and amounting to 13000*l.* as he law-
 ' fully might; but that they had been
 ' taken away from him by the late Act of
 ' Resumption, and he had not made clear
 ' of them above 400*l.* That he had not
 ' accepted of the Grants mentioned in *En-*
 ' *gland*, and particularly 2000*l.* per *Ann.*
 ' for seven Years, to be raised by the Fall
 ' of Scrub Beech, Birch, &c. and if any
 ' Abuse had been in cutting the Wood,
 ' he was not answerable for the same, it
 ' being done by the Direction of his Ma-
 ' jesty's Surveyor-Generals, and other Of-
 ' ficers:

‘ ficers. He does not deny his enjoying
 ‘ the said Places in the Treasury and the
 ‘ Exchequer ; but fays, it was but for a
 ‘ little while ; he designed from the Be-
 ‘ ginning to lay fome of them down, and
 ‘ had actually relinquish’d fome of them.
 ‘ He fays, he never advifed the Partition
 ‘ Treaties, or was confulted thereupon ;
 ‘ but, when the Matter was difcourfed of
 ‘ at *Tunbridge-Wells*, he made feveral Ob-
 ‘ jections to the fame.

‘ The Lords, by a Message the 24th of The Lords
 ‘ May, put the Commons in mind of re- put the
 ‘ plying to the Earl of *Orford*’s Answer, Commons
 ‘ and that a Day might be appointed for in mind of
 ‘ his Trial, and for exhibiting Articles a- replying
 ‘ gainft the Earl of *Portland* and the other to the E.
 ‘ Lords. of Orford.

‘ To which the Commons answered,
 ‘ That they deferred bringing up the Re-
 ‘ plication againft the Earl of *Orford*,
 ‘ becaufe they thought fit to begin with
 ‘ the Trial of the Lord *Somers*: And as to
 ‘ the other Part of the Lord’s Message,
 ‘ putting them in mind of fending up
 ‘ Articles of Impeachment againft the
 ‘ Earl of *Portland*, &c. they held it to
 ‘ be unparliamentary, they as Profecutors
 ‘ being proper Judges, where Articles of
 ‘ Impeachment ought to be brought up.

‘ Then the Lords fent a Message to the The Lords
 ‘ Commons ; acquainting them, that they appoint a
 ‘ had Day for
 ‘ the Trial
 ‘ of the E.
 ‘ of Orford.

‘ had appointed the 9th of *June* for the
 ‘ Trial of the Earl of *Orford*, and that
 ‘ the Commons might reply if they
 ‘ thought fit. They also put them in
 ‘ mind again, that no Articles were ex-
 ‘ hibited against the Earl of *Portland*;
 ‘ which, after an Impeachment had so
 ‘ long depended, they observed was a Hard-
 ‘ ship, and not agreeable to the usual Me-
 ‘ thod of Parliament.

The Com-
 mons re-
 sent, it be-
 cause they
 were not
 ready.

‘ To this the Commons replied, That
 ‘ it was their undoubted Right, when se-
 ‘ veral Persons stood impeached, to bring
 ‘ to Trial such of them in the first Place
 ‘ as they saw fit; and that no Day ought
 ‘ to be appointed by their Lordships for
 ‘ the Trial, without some previous Sig-
 ‘ nification to their Lordships from the
 ‘ Commons of their being ready to pro-
 ‘ ceed therein; and therefore the Com-
 ‘ mons could not agree to the Day ap-
 ‘ pointed by their Lordships for the Trial
 ‘ of the Earl of *Orford*: And as to that
 ‘ Part of their Message relating to the
 ‘ sending up Articles against the Earl of
 ‘ *Portland*, they thought their Lordships,
 ‘ by the frequent Repetition of it, intend-
 ‘ ed to introduce Disputes to the Delay of
 ‘ Justice, and in Breach of that good
 ‘ Correspondence which ought to be ob-
 ‘ served between the two Houses.

‘ The Lords, in a subsequent Message, put the Commons in mind of replying to the Lord *Somers*; and asserted, that the Right of limiting a convenient Time for the Trial was lodged in them.

The Lords insist on their Right to appoint the Trial.

‘ The Commons afterwards, at a Conference, proposed the appointing a Committee of both Houses, to consider of the most proper Ways and Methods of proceeding on Impeachments: But the Lords, by another Message, insisted on their Right of appointing the Day of Trial, without any previous Signification from the Commons of their being ready; and complained, that the Commons should charge them with delaying Justice.

‘ The Commons, on the other hand, insisted on the nominating a Committee of both Houses, to adjust the necessary Preliminaries to the Trials: As, whether the impeached Lords should appear at their Trials at their Lordships Bar as Criminals; and whether they should sit as Judges at each other's Trials, or vote in their own Cases, as they found by their Lordships Journals they had been admitted to do.

The Commons insist on a Committee of both Houses to adjust Preliminaries.

‘ Still the Lords refused to appoint any such Committee to consider of the Ways and Methods of Impeachments, and appointed *Friday, the 13th of June*, for

The Lords refuse it, and appoint a Day for Lord *Somers's* Trial.

‘ the Trial of the Lord *Somers*: But the
 ‘ Commons refused to appear at any Trial,
 ‘ till the Preliminaries were settled.

Resolutions of the
 Lords concerning
 Trials.

‘ The Lords afterwards sent the following Resolutions to the Commons,
 ‘ viz. 1st, That no Lord of Parliament,
 ‘ impeached for High Crimes and Misdemeanors, and coming to his Trial,
 ‘ shall be without the Bar. 2dly, That
 ‘ no Lord, impeached of high Crimes
 ‘ and Misdemeanors, can be precluded
 ‘ from voting on any Occasion, except in
 ‘ his own Trial. And that the Commons
 ‘ should not pretend they were straitened
 ‘ for Time, the Lords ordered the Trial
 ‘ of the Lord *Somers* to be put off to the
 ‘ 17th Instant, and agreed to a free Conference with the Commons.

A free
 Conference agreed to.

‘ At this Conference the Lord *Haversham* said, The Lords had so high an
 ‘ Opinion of the House of Commons,
 ‘ that *they hop'd Justice should never be*
 ‘ *made use of as a Mask for any Design:*
 ‘ *That it was a Demonstration the Commons*
 ‘ *thought the Lords innocent, because*
 ‘ *there were several other Lords engaged*
 ‘ *in the same Things, whom they did not*
 ‘ *accuse, but left them at the Head of Affairs,*
 ‘ *near the King's Person, to do any*
 ‘ *Mischief if they were inclined to it, when*
 ‘ *they were both alike guilty, and concern'd*
 ‘ *in the same Facts.*

‘ These

‘ These Expressions were immediately
 ‘ objected to by Sir *Christopher Musgrave*,
 ‘ and the Managers for the Commons,
 ‘ who took them to be such an Asper-
 ‘ sion on the Honour of that House, that
 ‘ they immediately withdrew from the
 ‘ Conference. As they withdrew, the
 ‘ Lord Steward said, He hoped they
 ‘ would not think, that that Lord had
 ‘ any Authority from the House of Lords
 ‘ to use any such Expressions towards the
 ‘ Commons.

The Com-
mons re-
sent some
Words
spoken by
Lord Ha-
versham.

‘ However, the Managers being return’d
 ‘ to their House, it was resolved, That
 ‘ *John Lord Haversham* had, at the free
 ‘ Conference, utter’d most scandalous Re-
 ‘ proaches and false Expressions, highly
 ‘ reflecting upon the Honour and Justice
 ‘ of the House of Commons, and tend-
 ‘ ing to the making a Breach in the good
 ‘ Correspondence between the Lords and
 ‘ Commons, and to the interrupting the
 ‘ publick Justice of the Nation, by de-
 ‘ laying the Proceedings on Impeach-
 ‘ ments: And resolved, That *John Lord*
 ‘ *Haversham* be charged before the Lords,
 ‘ for the Words spoken at the said Con-
 ‘ ference; and that the Lords be desired
 ‘ to proceed in Justice against him, and
 ‘ to inflict such Punishment upon the said
 ‘ Lord, as so high an Offence against the
 ‘ Commons does deserve.

Lord Ha-
versham
charged
with the
Words
spoken at
the Confe-
rence.

‘ The Lords afterwards desired, that
 ‘ the Free Conference might be renew’d,
 ‘ in order to set all Matters to rights; but
 ‘ the Commons resolv’d, that it was not
 ‘ consistent with their Honour to renew
 ‘ the Free Conference, till Justice was
 ‘ done them on the Lord *Haversham*.

Rules to
 be observ-
 ed at the
 Trial of
 Lord So-
 mers.

‘ The Lords, on the 16th of *June*,
 ‘ sent the Commons the following Rules,
 ‘ to be observed at the Trial of the Lord
 ‘ *Somers* the next Day, *viz.*

‘ That the whole Impeachment is to be
 ‘ read, and then the Answer; which be-
 ‘ ing done, the Lord Keeper is to tell
 ‘ the Commons, that now they may go
 ‘ on with their Evidence.

‘ Then the Lord Keeper is to declare,
 ‘ That now the Court is proceeding to
 ‘ hear the Evidence, and desire the Peers
 ‘ to give Attention.

‘ If any of the Peers, or the Members
 ‘ of the House of Commons, that ma-
 ‘ nage the Evidence, or the Lord impeach-
 ‘ ed, do desire to have any Question ask’d,
 ‘ they must desire the Lord Keeper to ask
 ‘ the same.

‘ If any Debate doth arise at the Trial,
 ‘ no Debate is to be in the Court, but
 ‘ the Question suspended, to be debated
 ‘ in this House.

‘ The Members of the House of Com-
 ‘ mons to be there before the Peers come.

‘ None

‘ None to be covered at the Trial but
‘ the Peers.

‘ That such Peers, at the Trial of the
‘ impeached Lord, who, at the Instance
‘ of the said Lord, or of the Commons,
‘ shall be admitted Witnesses, are to be
‘ sworn at the Clerk's Table; and the
‘ Lord Keeper to administer the Oath,
‘ and they to deliver their Evidence in
‘ their own Places.

‘ Those Witnesses that are Commoners,
‘ are to be sworn at the Bar by the Clerk,
‘ and are to deliver their Evidence there.

‘ The impeached Lords may cross-ex-
‘ amine Witnesses *viva voce*.

‘ The same Day, the Commons re-
‘ ceived the Lord *Haversham's* Answer to
‘ their Charge; in which he justified the
‘ Expression he had used at the late Con-
‘ ference between the two Houses; and
‘ still asserted, that the Commons had
‘ shewn themselves partial, and even un-
‘ just, in proceeding against the impeach-
‘ ed Lords, while they suffer'd the Earl
‘ of *Fersey*, Mr. Secretary *Vernon*, Sir
‘ *Joseph Williamson*, Sir *Edward Seymour*,
‘ Sir *Stephen Fox*, and Mr. *Pelham*, who
‘ were engaged in the same Transac-
‘ tions, to remain unmolested.

Lord *Haversham's*
Answer to
the Com-
mons
Charge.

‘ On the other hand, the Commons
‘ gave several Reasons why they could not
‘ appear at the Trial of the Lord *Somers*;
‘ the

Reasons
of the
Commons
why they
would not
appear at
the Trial
of Lord
Somers.

‘ the Principal whereof were, 1st, That
‘ the Lords had not agreed to a Committee
‘ of both Houses for settling the Preli-
‘ minaries. 2^{dly}, That they could never
‘ appear as Prosecutors before their Lord-
‘ ships, till they had given them Satis-
‘ faction, that Lords impeached of the
‘ the same Crimes should not sit as Judges
‘ on each other’s Trials for those Crimes.
‘ 3^{dly}, Because the Commons had yet re-
‘ ceived no Reparation for the great In-
‘ dignity offer’d them at the Free Confe-
‘ rence by the Lord *Haversham*.

The Lords
however
proceed to
acquitt him

‘ The Lords however proceeded to the
‘ Trial of the Lord *Somers*, the 17th In-
‘ stant, in *Westminster-Hall*; that is, they
‘ caused the Articles against him, and his
‘ Answer, to be read; and, the Commons
‘ not having reply’d, and consequently no
‘ Issue being join’d, the Lords proceeded to
‘ put the following Question, *That John*
‘ *Lord Somers be acquitted of the Articles*
‘ *of Impeachment against him exhibited by*
‘ *the House of Commons, and all Things there-*
‘ *in contained; and that the said Impeach-*
‘ *ment be dismissed?* Which was resolved
‘ in the Affirmative, in the Absence of the
‘ Commons.

The Lords
Answer to
the Com-
mons Rea-
sons.

‘ On the 20th of *June*, the Lords sent an
‘ Answer to the Commons Reasons for not
‘ appearing at the Trial of the impeach’d
‘ Lords; wherein their Lordships say, That
‘ they

‘ they acknowledged, that the House of
 ‘ Commons have a Right of impeaching;
 ‘ but that the Lords have an undoubted
 ‘ Right of doing Justice upon these Im-
 ‘ peachments, by bringing them to a
 ‘ Trial, and condemning or acquitting the
 ‘ Parties in a reasonable Time: That there
 ‘ never was a Committee of both Houses
 ‘ yielded to by the Lords, in case of an
 ‘ Impeachment for high Crimes and Mis-
 ‘ demeanors; and they should make no
 ‘ Precedent on the Occasion: And, as to
 ‘ the Pretence the Commons made to de-
 ‘ lay the Trials, on account of some Ex-
 ‘ pressions that fell from the Lord *Haver-*
 ‘ *versham*, their Lordships answer, They
 ‘ had omitted nothing which might
 ‘ give the Commons all reasonable Satis-
 ‘ faction in that Matter; and observed
 ‘ farther, That this Business had no Rela-
 ‘ tion to the Trial of the impeached Lords,
 ‘ therefore they could not imagine why the
 ‘ Commons should make Satisfaction and
 ‘ Reparation against the Lord *Haver-*
 ‘ *versham* a necessary Condition for going on with
 ‘ the Trials.

‘ The Commons, on the contrary, came
 ‘ to a Resolution, the same 20th of *June*,
 ‘ That the Lords had refused Justice to
 ‘ the Commons, upon the Impeachment
 ‘ against the Lord *Somers*, by denying a
 ‘ Committee of both Houses to settle the

The Com-
 mons re-
 solve the
 Lords had
 refused
 them Jus-
 tice, &c.

‘ Preli-

‘ Preliminaries, and afterwards proceed-
 ‘ ing to a pretended Trial of the said Lord,
 ‘ which could tend only to protect him
 ‘ from Justice, by Colour of an illegal
 ‘ Acquittal; against which Proceedings
 ‘ the Commons did solemnly protest, as
 ‘ being repugnant to the Rules of Jus-
 ‘ tice, and therefore null and void: That
 ‘ the House of Lords, by the pretended
 ‘ Trial of *John Lord Somers*, had endea-
 ‘ voured to overturn the Right of Im-
 ‘ peachments, lodg’d in the House of Com-
 ‘ mons by the antient Constitution of this
 ‘ Kingdom, for the Safety and Protection
 ‘ of the Commons against the Power of
 ‘ great Men, and had made an Invasion
 ‘ on the Liberties of the Subject, by lay-
 ‘ ing a Foundation of Impunity for the
 ‘ greatest Offenders: That all the ill Con-
 ‘ sequences which might attend the De-
 ‘ lay of the Supplies, given by the Com-
 ‘ mons for preserving the publick Peace,
 ‘ and maintaining the Balance of *Europe*,
 ‘ by supporting our Allies against the Power
 ‘ of *France*, were to be imputed to those,
 ‘ who, to procure an Indemnity for their
 ‘ own enormous Crimes, had used their
 ‘ utmost Endeavours to make a Breach be-
 ‘ tween the two Houses.

The Lords
 Answer to
 the

‘ In answer to this Protest, the Lords
 ‘ sent the Commons a Message the same
 ‘ Day; acquainting them, That the Com-
 ‘ mons

‘ mons not appearing to maintain their
 ‘ Articles against the Lord *Somers*, they had
 ‘ acquitted him of the Articles of Impeach-
 ‘ ment, and dismiss’d the same; and that
 ‘ they had appointed *Monday* next for the
 ‘ Trial of the Earl of *Orford*: That from
 ‘ the Commons still pressing for a Com-
 ‘ mittee of both Houses, their Lordships
 ‘ inferred, that they never designed the
 ‘ bringing any of their Impeachments to
 ‘ a Trial: And as to the Lord *Haversham*,
 ‘ his Answer was before the Commons,
 ‘ and the Lords resolved to do Justice in
 ‘ that Matter.

‘ The Commons, on the other hand of-
 ‘ fered, That no Member should presume
 ‘ to appear at the pretended Trial of the
 ‘ Earl of *Orford*, on Pain of incurring the
 ‘ utmost Displeasure of the House.

‘ On *Monday*, the 23d of *June*, the
 ‘ Lords resolved, That the Resolutions of Their Re-
 solution.
 ‘ the Commons of the 20th Instant, con-
 ‘ tained most unjust Reflections on the
 ‘ Honour and Justice of the House of
 ‘ Peers; and were contrived to cover their
 ‘ affected and unreasonable Delays in pro-
 ‘ secuting the impeached Lords; and did
 ‘ manifestly tend to the Destruction of the
 ‘ Judicature of the Lords; to the render-
 ‘ ing Trials and Impeachments impracti-
 ‘ cable for the future; to the subverting
 ‘ the Constitution of the *English* Govern-
 ‘ ment;

ment; and therefore, whatever ill Con-
 sequences might arise from the so long
 deferring the Supplies of this Year's Ser-
 vice, they were to be attributed to the
 fatal Council of the putting off the Meet-
 ing of a Parliament so long, and to the
 unnecessary Delays of the House of
 Commons.

The Earl
 of Orford
 acquitted.

The same Day the Lords proceeded to
 acquit the Earl of *Orford*, as they had
 done the Lord *Somers*; and on the 24th
 of *June*, the last Day of the Session,
 they made the following Order, *viz.*

Order of
 the Lords,
 concern-
 ing Lord
Haver-
sham, and
 the Lords
Portland
 and *Hali-*
fax.

“ The House of Commons not hav-
 ing presented their Charge, which
 they brought up against *John Lord*
Haversham, for Words spoken by him,
 at a free Conference the 13th In-
 stant, the said Charge is hereby dismis-
 sed. The Earl of *Portland* being im-
 peached by the House of Commons,
 of high Crimes and Misdemeanors, the
 first Day of *April* last, the Impeach-
 ment is hereby dismissed, there being no
 Articles exhibited against him. The
 House of Commons having impeached
Charles Lord Halifax, of high Crimes
 and Misdemeanors, on the 15th Day
 of *April* last; and on the 14th Day of
 this Instant *June* exhibited Articles a-
 gainst him, to which he having answer-
 ed,

“ed, and there being no further Prosecution thereupon, the said Impeachment and Articles are hereby dismissed.’ At the same Time they dismissed an Impeachment, that had been preferred against the Duke of *Leeds*, by a former Parliament.’

These were the famous Proceedings in King WILLIAM's last Parliament, of which Mr. PRIOR was a Member, and voted for the Impeachments. Tho' I had already been pretty extensive on the Partition Treaty, I could not omit this Relation, which contains that Part of its Consequences that most peculiarly relates to our Subject. I shall now entirely drop it, having first added my Author's Remarks on these Impeachments.

‘ It seems to have been agreed, both by the Lords and Commons in this Dispute, that the Partition Treaty was of pernicious Consequence, and that the transacting it in a private Manner, without communicating it to the Council, was a high Misdemeanor in those that advised and transacted it: But whether the Commons suspected, that the Lords, who were generally in the Interest of the old Ministry, would not pass any Censure on the impeached Lords, or for what other Reason, is uncertain, the Commons seem to have been a little dilatory

Remarks
on these
Impeach-
ments.

in

' in their Proceedings, and might design
 ' the Lords should have lain under
 ' an Impeachment, during the Recess of
 ' the Parliament. There might possibly
 ' be something of Party also in the Case :
 ' The impeached Lords were the Chiefs of
 ' the Whigs, and had long reigned at Court
 ' without Controul ; and the Tories, who
 ' succeeded them, had a View, perhaps,
 ' of preventing their returning to their
 ' Posts, as well as of bringing them to
 ' Justice for negotiating the Partition
 ' Treaty, and for the other Misdemeanors
 ' mentioned in the Articles. There are
 ' few Prosecutions of this Kind, but there
 ' is a great deal of private Pique, Interest,
 ' and Resentment, mixed with Views of
 ' the public Good.

The King
 in *Holland*.
 Things at
 a Crisis.

The King of *Great Britain*, at the
 breaking up of the Parliament, set out
 for *Holland*, to confer with the States on
 the present Posture of Affairs. He ar-
 rived at the *Hague* on the 3d of *July*
 1701, and was joyfully received. Soon
 after the *French* Ambassador there signi-
 fied his being re-called ; the *Germans*, un-
 der Prince *Eugene*, penetrated into the
Milanese ; a War broke out in the North
 between King *Charles* the XIIth of *Sweden*,
 and the Confederates against him ; in short,
 a Flame seemed to be kindling through-
 out all *Christendom*. The Death of King
 JAMES

JAMES at *St. Germain's*, in the midst of King
this Confusion, effectually blow'd it up, JAMES
and left no Possibility of an Accommo- dies.
dation.

' The *French* King, foreseeing a War The Pre-
' unavoidable, unless he would relinquish tenderpro-
' Part of the *Spanish* Dominions, had claimed.
' promised King JAMES, on his Death-
' bed, that he would acknowledge his Son
' (the Pretender) King of *England*, im-
' mediately after his Decease, and was as
' good as his Word, proclaiming him King
' of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*; where-
' upon the Earl of *Manchester*, the En- The Eng-
' glish Ambassador at *Paris*, was ordered lish Am-
' to return home without taking leave, bassador at
' and Monsieur *Poussin*, the *French* Resi- Paris re-
' dent in *England*, to depart the Kingdom: turns
' Immediately after which, the City of home.
' *London*, and most of the Counties of
' *England*, transmitted Addresses to his Loyal Ad-
' Majesty in *Holland*; declaring their Sense dresses
' of the Indignity offered him, and pro- promising
' mising to support his Government against to stand
' the Pretender, and all his Enemies: And, by the
' in the mean Time, his Majesty con- Kingdom.
' cluded Alliances with several foreign
' Princes against *France*; but that of the
' greatest Consequence was with the Em-
' peror and *Holland*, usually stiled the
' *Grand Alliance*, which was of the fol-
' lowing Tenor, (*viz.*)

The Articles of the
Grand Alliance.

I. " That there shall be a strict
" Alliance between the Emperor, the
" King of *England*, and the States-Ge-
" neral.

II. " That, for settling the Peace and
" Tranquillity of *Europe*, which is their
" chief Aim, they have thought nothing
" could more conduce thereunto, than to
" procure Satisfaction to the Emperor for
" his Pretensions upon *Spain*, and Secu-
" rity to *England* and *Holland* for their
" Dominions and Commerce.

III. " That they shall employ their
" good Offices for two Months together
" after the Ratification, in order to ob-
" tain that End in an amicable Way.

IV. " That, if they cannot succeed
" therein, they shall assist each other with
" all their Forces.

V. " That they shall endeavour to con-
" quer the *Spanish Netherlands*, that they
" may serve as a Barrier for the secur-
" ing the States-General; to conquer the
" Dutchy of *Milan* as a Fief of the Em-
" pire; the Kingdom of *Naples* and *Sicily*,
" and the Islands and Places on the Coasts
" of *Tuscany*, which may be advanta-
" geous

“ geous to the Navigation and Trade of
“ the *English* and *Dutch*.

VI. “ That, for the greater Security
“ of the Navigation of the *English* and
“ *Dutch*, it shall be lawful for them to
“ attack and possess the Countries and
“ Towns belonging to *Spain* in the *Indies*;
“ and that they shall keep for themselves
“ the Countries and Towns conquered by
“ them.

VII. “ That, if they are necessitated
“ to enter into a War, they shall sincerely
“ communicate unto each other every
“ Thing relating to their Interests.

VIII. “ That none of the Parties shall
“ make Peace without the Consent of the
“ other, nor before they have obtained a
“ convenient Satisfaction for the Emperor,
“ and a Security for the Dominions and
“ Trade of the *English* and *Dutch*, and
“ procured that the Crowns of *France* and
“ *Spain* be never re-united under the same
“ Prince; and in particular, that the
“ *French* be never Masters of the *Indies*
“ submitted to *Spain*, or that they be
“ permitted to trade into that Country,
“ directly or indirectly; nor before they
“ have obtained for the *English* and *Dutch*
“ those Rights, Privileges and Franchises,

The HISTORY of

“ for their Trade in *Spain* and the *Me-*
 “ *diterranean*, which they enjoy’d under
 “ *Charles II*, by Virtue of Treaties, Cuf-
 “ tom, or any other Title whatsoever.

IX. “ They shall agree, at the same
 “ Time, that the Peace shall be treated
 “ of on the Means for securing the Com-
 “ merce of both Nations and the Barrier.

X. “ They shall agree about the Dif-
 “ ferences that may relate to the Exercise
 “ of Religion in the Countries they hope
 “ to conquer.

XI. “ If the most Christian King at-
 “ tacks any of them, by reason of this
 “ Treaty, they shall assist each other with
 “ all their Forces.

XII. “ The defensive Alliance shall
 “ subsist between the said Parties after
 “ the Conclusion of the Peace for the
 “ Guarantee of the Treaty.

XIII. “ All Princes and States, that
 “ shall be willing to come into this Al-
 “ liance, shall be admitted ; and the
 “ States of the Empire shall be particu-
 “ larly invited to come into the same, as
 “ being concern’d in the Recovery of the
 “ imperial Fiefs.

XIV.

XIV. " This Treaty, which was sign'd
" on the 7th of *September* last, shall be
" ratified within seven Weeks after."

' King WILLIAM being detained in *Holland*, partly by his ill State of Health, and partly in concerting Measures with the States to attack the *French* Frontiers the next Campaign, did not arrive in *England* till the 5th of *November*; and, on the 11th of the same Month, he issued a Proclamation for dissolving the Parliament, and calling another to meet on the 30th of *December*: The Reason given for which was, That his Majesty might have the present Sense of the Nation in this extraordinary Conjunction; but, probably, the greatest Inducement might be to prevent a Revival of the Differences between the two Houses of Parliament, whereby the Supplies necessary for the approaching War might have been delay'd.

King *William* comes to *England*.

He dissolves the Parliament, and calls another.

' The City of *London*, and some other Places, thought fit to give their Representatives Instructions for their Conduct in the ensuing Session; importing, that they should vigorously assist his Majesty in maintaining his Title to the Crown, to make good his Alliances, and reduce the Power of *France*; recommending,

London give their Members Instructions.

‘ above all Things, a Union between the
‘ two Houses.’

King *Wil-*
liam's last
Parlia-
ment.

The Parliament elected *Robert Harley*, Esq; who had presided in the last House of Commons, to be their Speaker. I shall not insert his Majesty's Speech at his coming to the House, which being his last, is in abundance of Hands. Both Lords and Commons, in their Addresses, returned him Thanks for it; expressed their Resolutions to maintain and support his Title, and to enable him to make good all his Alliances, for the Preservation of the Liberties of *Europe*, and reducing the exorbitant Power of *France*: And the Commons, in order to raise a present Sum of Money for his warlike Preparations, resolved, That whoever should advance the Sum of 600,000 *l.* for the Service of the Fleet, and 50,000 *l.* for the present Subsistence of the Land-Forces, should be repaid with Interest, at 6 *per Cent*, out of the first Aids. In the mean Time, all possible Expedition was used for equipping out a Fleet; and a Proclamation issued to encourage Seamen to enter on board the Royal Navy; the Commons having voted, That 40,000 Men should be raised for the Sea-Service, and the same Number for the Land-Service, to act in Conjunction with the Allies.

But

But his Majesty's Death, which hap- HisDeath.
pened on the 8th of *March* 170 $\frac{1}{2}$, obliges
us to refer our Readers to the History of
the succeeding Reign, for the Effects of
this great Armament. There they will
see the Earl of *Marlborough* advanced to
be Captain-General, upon the Recom-
mendation of the late King; a War pro-
claimed and carried on with a Series of
Success, that has hardly been parallell'd;
Parliaments, and even Sovereigns, con-
spiring in raising Monuments to the Ho-
nour of our Hero; and Poets, among
whom Mr. PRIOR was not the least con-
siderable, sacrificing to his Glory those
immortal Oblations, which the Muses
have in Store for the first of Men. It is
only with a View to the Poems he wrote
on these Occasions, and the Negotiations
in which he was afterwards concerned,
that I shall take notice of what passed in
some of the Campaigns: War being no
more the proper Subject of this Work,
than it was the Business of Mr. PRIOR's
Life. We find in this Reign, as in the
former, that while *Bellona* raged in the
Field, he continually put himself under
the Protection of *Pallas* and the harmo-
nious Sisters, and was contented with
only appearing now and then as a Poet:
But when Peace held forth her Olive-
Branch, and the jarring Nations were in-
clined

clined to receive her; he was again employed in the most important Affairs, the carrying of his Sovereign's Warrants.

Mr. PRI-
OR's Poli-
tical Poems
in Queen
ANNE'S
Reign.

His *Letter to Monsieur Boileau Despreaux*, occasioned by the *Victory at Blenheim 1704*, and his *Ode humbly inscribed to the Queen on the glorious Success of her Majesty's Arms 1706*, written in Imitation of *Spenser's Style*, are both of them exquisitely fine, though in very different Tastes. The former is a Composition of a very peculiar Sort, comprising the various Beauties of a familiar Epistle, a genteel Satire, and an epic Poem. In the Latter, as his Preface informs us, he has copied the Warmth of an *Horatian Ode* in the Style and Numbers of our Countryman *Spenser*; having only added one Verse to his Stanza, which he thought made the Number more harmonious. At the End of this Preface, after having drawn the Characters of his 'two great Examples', he declares, (as most good Poets have done at some Time or other of their Lives, and kept their Words in the same Manner,) 'That it is long since he has (or at least ought to have) quitted *Parnassus*, and all the flowery Roads on that Side the Country; though he thought himself indispensably obliged, upon the present Occasion, to take a little Journey into those Parts.'

The Victory at *Blenheim*, which makes the Subject of the first of these Poems, is one of the most remarkable in History : And there cannot be a shorter, or better Account of it given, than in the Words of the General who won it. He writes thus to Mr. Secretary *Harley* on the 14th of *August* 1704, the Day after the Battle.

S I R,

‘ I GAVE you an Account on *Sunday* of the Situation we were then in, and that we expected to hear the Enemy would pass the *Danube* at *Lawingen*, in order to attack Prince *Eugene*. At Eleven that Night we had an Express from him that the Enemy was come over, and desiring he might be re-inforced as soon as possible. Whereupon I ordered my Brother *Churchill* to advance at One o’Clock in the Morning with his twenty Battalions, and by Three the whole Army was in Motion. For the greater Expedition, I ordered part of the Troops to pass over the *Danube*, and to follow the March of the twenty Battalions ; and with most of the Horse and Foot of the first Line, I passed the *Lech* at *Rain*, and came over the *Danube* at *Donawert* ; so that we all join’d the Prince

Duke of
Marlbo-rough's
Letter at
on the Bat-
tle at
Blenheim.

Prince that Night, intending to advance and take this Camp of *Hockstet*: In order whereto, we went out on *Tuesday*, early in the Morning, with forty Squadrons, to view the Ground; but found the Enemy had already possessed themselves of it: Whereupon we resolved to attack them; and accordingly we marched between Three and Four Yesterday Morning from the Camp at *Munster*, leaving all our Tents standing. About Six we came in View of the Enemy, who, we found, did not expect so early a Visit: The Cannon began to play about half an Hour after eight. They formed themselves into two Bodies; the Elector, with Monsieur *Marfin*, and their Troops, on our Right; and Monsieur *de Tallard*, with all his, on our Left; which last fell to my Share: They had two little Rivulets, besides a Morass, before them, which we were obliged to pass over in their View; and Prince *Eugene* was forced to take a great Compass to come to the Enemy; so that it was One o'Clock before the Battle began. It lasted with great Vigour till Sun-set, when the Enemy was obliged to retire; and, by the Blessing of God, we obtained a complete Victory. We have cut off great Numbers of them, as well in the Action, as in the Retreat, besides
upwards

' upwards of thirty Squadrons of the
 ' *French*, which I pushed into the *Da-*
 ' *nube*, where we saw the greatest part of
 ' them perish; Monsieur *de Tallard*, with
 ' several of his General Officers, being
 ' taken Prisoners at the same Time: And,
 ' in the Village of *Blenheim*, which the
 ' Enemy had entrenched and fortified,
 ' and where they made the greatest Op-
 ' fition, I oblig'd twenty-six entire Bat-
 ' talions, and twelve Squadrons of Dra-
 ' goons, to surrender themselves Prisoners
 ' at Discretion. We took likewise all
 ' their Tents standing, with their Cannon
 ' and Ammunition, as also a great Number
 ' of Standards, Kettle-Drums, and Co-
 ' lours, in the Action; so that I reckon
 ' the greatest part of Monsieur *Tallard's*
 ' Army is taken or destroyed. The Bra-
 ' very of all our Troops on this Occasion
 ' cannot be expressed; the Generals, as
 ' well as the Officers and Soldiers, behav-
 ' ing themselves with the greatest Courage
 ' and Resolution. The Horse and Dra-
 ' goons were obliged to charge four or
 ' five several Times. The Elector, and
 ' Monsieur *de Marfin*, were so advan-
 ' tageously posted, that Prince *Eugene*
 ' could make no Impression on them till
 ' the third Attack at near Seven at Night,
 ' when he made a great Slaughter of them;
 ' but, being near a Wood-side, a good
 ' Body

‘ Body of *Bavarians* retired into it, and
‘ the rest of the Army retreated towards
‘ *Lawingen* ; it being too late, and the
‘ Troops too much tired, to pursue them
‘ far. I cannot say too much in Praise of
‘ that Prince’s good Conduct, and the
‘ Bravery of his Troops, upon this Occa-
‘ sion. You will please to lay this before
‘ her Majesty and his Royal Highness, to
‘ whom I send my Lord *Tunbridge* with
‘ the good News. I pray you will like-
‘ wise inform yourself, and let me know
‘ her Majesty’s Pleasure, as well relating
‘ to Monsieur *de Tallard*, and the other
‘ General Officers, as the Disposal of
‘ near twelve hundred other Officers, and
‘ between eight and nine thousand com-
‘ mon Soldiers ; who, being all made Pri-
‘ soners by her Majesty’s Troops, are en-
‘ tirely at her Disposal. But, as the Charge
‘ of subsisting these Officers and Men
‘ must be very great, I presume her Ma-
‘ jesty will be inclined that they be ex-
‘ changed for any other Prisoners that
‘ offer.

‘ I should likewise be glad to receive
‘ her Majesty’s Directions for the Dis-
‘ posal of the Standards and Colours,
‘ whereof I have not yet the Number ;
‘ but guess there cannot be less than an
‘ hundred, which is more than has been
‘ taken in any Battle these many Years.
‘ You

‘ You will easily believe, that, in so long
 ‘ and vigorous an Action, the *English*,
 ‘ who had so great a Share in it, must
 ‘ have suffered, as well in Officers, as Men;
 ‘ but I have not the Particulars.’ *

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant,

MARLBOROUGH.

The Consequences of this Victory were the entire Reduction of all *Bavaria* to the Emperor's Obedience, the taking of *Ulm*, *Landau*, *Triers*, *Traerbach*, and the Recovery of almost all that had been lost to the *French* during their late Successes.

Mr. PRIOR's Epistle to Boileau.

Mr. Boileau, in his eighth Epistle, which begins,

*Grand Roi, cesse de vaincre, ou je cesse
 d'ecrire,*

Had informed his Sovereign of the great

* In this Battle the Enemy's Loss was computed to be between twenty and thirty thousand Men, killed or taken: The Confederates also took upwards of 100 Pieces of Cannon, 24 Mortars, 129 Colours, 171 Standards, 17 Pair of Kettle-Drums, 3600 Tents, 34 Coaches, 300 laden Mules, 24 Barrels, and 8 Casks of Silver. Of the Confederates there were about 4500 Men killed, and 7500 wounded.

Diffi-

Difficulties he lay under to describe his numerous and wonderful Conquests. *Sometimes, says he, in the Ardour of my Zeal, I endeavour to measure out the Syllables of an Ode; at others, I boldly form the Plan of a sublime Æneid. Thus, continually flattered by a pleasing Madness, I perceive my Genius daily to decrease; and that my Verses, without Spirit or Beauty, dishonour my Pen, and do no Honour to Thee.* He then humbly informs his Majesty, that it would be but reasonable to give him Breath for one Year, at least, that his Muse might recover her Vigour, and atone for the Opportunities she had lost.

With what an agreeable Sneer does Mr. PRIOR allude to this extravagant, though artful Stretch of Flattery, and perhaps to other Passages of an equal Strain, in the Beginning of his Epistle.

Since hir'd for Life, thy servile Muse must sing
 Successive Conquests, and a glorious King;
 Must of a Man immortal vainly boast,
 And bring him Laurels, whatsoe'er they cost:
 What Turn wilt thou employ, what Colours lay
 On the Event of that superior Day,
 In which one ENGLISH Subject's prosp'rous Hand
 (So Jove did will; so ANNA did command)
 Broke the proud Column of thy Master's Praise,
 Which sixty Winters had conspir'd to raise?

From

From the loft Field a hundred Standards brought
Must be the Work of Chance, and Fortune's Fault:
BAVARIA's Stars must be accus'd, which shone,
That fatal Day the mighty Work was done,
With Rays oblique upon the GALLIC Sun.
Some DÆMON envying FRANCE missed the Fight:
And MARS mistook, tho' LOUIS order'd right.

But the Verses that follow are an inimitable Piece of Raillery on the *Frenchman's* fourth Epistle, in which he complains that the King did not consider his Poet in his Campaigns, but unkindly took Places in Fact, which could not possibly be taken in Rhyme.

When thy young Muse invok'd the tuneful Nine,
To say how LOUIS did not pass the RHINE,
What Work had we with WAGENINGHEN, ARN-
HEIM,
Places that could not be reduc'd to Rhyme?
And tho' the Poet made his last Efforts,
WURTS—who could mention in Heroic—WURTS?
But, tell me, hast thou Reason to complain
Of the rough Triumphs of the last Campaign?
The DANUBE rescu'd, and the Empire sav'd,
Say, is the Majesty of Verse retriev'd?
And would it prejudice thy softer Vein,
To sing the Princes, LOUIS and EUGENE?
Is it too hard in happy Verse to place
The VANS and VANDERS of the RHINE and
MAES?

The HISTORY of

Her Warriors ANNA sends from TWEED and
THAMES,

That FRANCE may fall by more harmonious
Names.

Can'st thou not HAMILTON or LUMLY bear?
Would INGOLDSBY or PALMES offend thy Ear?
And is there not a Sound in MARLBRO's Name,
Which Thou and all thy Brethren ought to claim,
Sacred to Verse, and sure of endless Fame?

However, though the Names of his
Heroes are tuneful enough, Mr. PRIOR
pleasantly owns that there are some Particulars in this Victory which cannot be rendered so harmonious. Who does not perceive the Beauty of these seemingly unpolish'd Lines?

I grant, old Friend, old Foe (or such We are
Alternate, as the Chance of Peace and War)
That we poetic Folks, who must restrain
Our measur'd Sayings in an equal Chain,
Have Troubles utterly unknown to those,
Who let their Fancy loose in rambling Prose.

For Instance now, how hard it is for Me
To make my Matter and my Verse agree:
In one great Day on HOCHSTET's fatal Plain
FRENCH and BAVARIANS twenty thousand slain, &c.

In this Manner he runs on, till he has given us what he calls a *Commissary's List in Verse*; to the Poetry of which he brings an Objection from his Antagonist, and thus answers it.

Why

Why Faith, DESPREAUX, there's Sense in what
you say:

I told you where my Difficulty lay:

So vast, so numerous, were great BLENHEIM's
Spoils,

They scorn the Bounds of Verse, and mock the
Muse's Toils.

To make the rough Recital aptly chime,

Or bring the Sum of GALLIA's Loss to Rhime,

'Tis mighty hard. —

Yet in the midst of these Pleasantries,
he generously acknowledges the Merit
of his Adversary, and wishes poetically
for what he really possessed, a Genius equal
to the Praises of his Queen, and her vic-
torious General.

O Poet, had it been APOLLO's Will,
That I had shar'd a Portion of thy Skill;
Had this poor Breast receiv'd the heav'nly Beam,
Or could I hope my Verse might reach my Theam;
Yet, BOILEAU, yet the lab'ring Muse should strive,
Beneath the Shades of MARLBRO's Wreaths to live:
Should call aspiring Gods to bless her Choice;
And to their Fav'rite's Strain exalt her Voice,
Arms and a Queen to sing; who, Great and Good,
From peaceful THAMES to DANUBE's wond'ring
Flood

Sent for the Terror of her high Commands,
To save the Nations from invading Hands,

To prop fair Liberty's declining Cause,
And fix the jarring World with equal Laws.

There cannot be a better Instance of his Abilities for the Undertaking he modestly declines, than in the noble Plan of an Heroic Poem which he has annex'd to this Address. It contains near an hundred Verses, that are equally elegant and sublime. After which he concludes in the true Spirit of an *Englishman*.

But we must change the Style.—Just now I said,
I ne'er was Master of the tuneful Trade :
Or the small Genius which my Youth could boast,
In Prose and Business lies extinct and lost.
Bless'd, if I may some younger Muse excite ;
Point out the Game, and animate the Flight :
That from *Marseilles* to *Calais* FRANCE may know,
As we have Conqu'rors, we have Poets too ;
And either Laurel does in BRITAIN grow :
That, tho' amongst ourselves, with too much Heat,
We sometimes wrangle, when we should debate ;
(A consequential Ill, which Freedom draws;
A bad Effect, but from a noble Cause)
We can with universal Zeal advance,
To curb the faithless Arrogance of FRANCE.
Nor ever shall BRITANNIA'S Sons refuse
To answer to thy Master, or thy Muse ;
Nor want just Subject for victorious Strains,
While MARLBRO'S Arm eternal Laurel gains;
And where old SPENCER sung, a new ELISA
 reigns.

Mr. PRIOR's other political Poem, on the Success of her Majesty's Arms in the Year 1706, obliges me to give a short History of that Campaign, as I did before of the Victory of *Blenheim*.

‘ The Duke of *Marlborough* arrived at the *Hague* the 4th of *April*, O. S. and, having concerted the Operations of the Campaign with the States, took the Field about a Fortnight after. The *French*, who made great Advantages the last War by early Campaigns, had this Spring formed a Design to surprize the Duke of *Marlborough*, before the *Danes* and *Prussians* had join'd him; and thereupon the Elector of *Bavaria* and Marshal *Villeroy* pass'd the *Dyle* the Beginning of *May*, and advanced directly towards the Confederate Army: The Duke of *Marlborough*, who was seldom surpriz'd for want of Intelligence of the Enemies Motions, being appriz'd of their Design, dispatch'd an Express to the *Danish* Troops to join him; and they arriv'd within a League of his Camp the 22d of *May*, N. S.

The Campaign in *Flanders*, 1706.

‘ The Enemies Army consisted of seventy-six Battalions and one hundred and thirty-two Squadrons, and the Confederate Army of seventy-four Battalions and one hundred and twenty-three Squadrons:

‘ drons: They came to an Engagement
 ‘ the Day following; of which Colonel
 ‘ *Edwards*, Aid-de-Camp to the Duke of
 ‘ *Marlborough*, brought the following Re-
 ‘ lation to her Majesty.

The Bat-
 of *Ramil-*
 lies on *Sun-*
 day 12th
 of May,
 O. S.

‘ On *Saturday* the 11th Instant, O. S.
 ‘ the confederate Army decamped from
 ‘ *Borchloen*, and march’d to *Gros Wareem* ;
 ‘ the *Danish* Troops came up with our
 ‘ Rear, and encamped at a small Distance
 ‘ from us: Here we had Advice, that
 ‘ the Enemy, who, being join’d by the
 ‘ Horse of the *Mareschal de Marfin’s*
 ‘ Army, and depending on the Superi-
 ‘ ority of their Numbers, were lately
 ‘ come out of their Lines, and had made
 ‘ a Motion, extending their Right towards
 ‘ *Judoigne*.

‘ My Lord Duke and Monsieur *d’Au-*
 ‘ *verquerque*, relying upon the Goodness
 ‘ of their Troops, resolved to advance
 ‘ towards the Enemy; and accordingly,
 ‘ on *Sunday* the 12th, about Three in the
 ‘ Morning, the Army march’d in eight
 ‘ Columns towards *Ramillies*, a Village
 ‘ where the *Gbeete* takes its Source, that
 ‘ we might avoid the Inconvenience of
 ‘ passing that River. Being advanced
 ‘ near the said Village, we found the Ene-
 ‘ my getting into the Camp of *Mount St.*
 ‘ *André*,

‘ *André*, and placing their Right to the
‘ *Mebaign*.

‘ This River flows about half a League
‘ from *Ramillies*, the Ground between
‘ them being open and level: The *Gbeete*
‘ runs from *Ramillies* to *Autreglise*, thro’
‘ a marshy Ground; and beyond *Autre-*
‘ *glise* the River grows wide, and the
‘ Ground is unpassable.

‘ The Enemy had posted a Brigade of
‘ Foot next to the *Mebaign*, and filled
‘ the Space between that and *Ramillies*,
‘ with upwards of one hundred Squadrons,
‘ among which were the Troops of the
‘ *French* King’s Household. At *Ramillies*
‘ they had above twenty Battalions of
‘ Foot, with about twelve Pieces of treble
‘ Cannon: From thence to *Autreglise* they
‘ had formed a Line of Foot along the
‘ *Gbeete*, with a Line of Horse at some
‘ distance behind them.

‘ His Grace judging, by the Situation
‘ of the Ground, that the Stress of the
‘ Action would be on our Left, ordered
‘ that, besides the Number of Horse be-
‘ longing to that Wing, the *Danish* Squa-
‘ drons, being twenty in Number, should
‘ also be posted there. It was about Two
‘ in the Afternoon before our Army could
‘ be formed in Order of Battle; and then
‘ we began the Attack on our Left with
‘ four Battalions, which pushed the Bri-

' gade of Foot above-mentioned from
 ' their Post on the *Mebaign*. Monsieur
 ' d' *Auverquerque* about the same Time
 ' charged with the Horse of that Wing.
 ' The Success was doubtful about half an
 ' Hour ; which the Duke of *Marlborough*
 ' perceiving, ordered the rest of the Horse
 ' of the Right Wing (except the *English*,
 ' who were seventeen Squadrons) to sup-
 ' port those on the Left.

' Here, while his Grace was rallying
 ' some, and giving his Orders for others
 ' to charge, he was in very great Danger,
 ' being singled out by several of the Re-
 ' solutest of the Enemy ; and, falling
 ' from his Horse at the same Time, had
 ' either been killed or taken Prisoner, if
 ' some of our Foot, that were near at
 ' hand, had not come very seasonably to
 ' his Grace's Assistance, and obliged the
 ' Enemy to retire. After this, my Lord
 ' Duke had still a greater Escape ; a Can-
 ' non-Ball having taken off Colonel *Bing-*
 ' *field's* Head as he was remounting his
 ' Grace.

' The Village of *Ramillies* was attacked
 ' by a Detachment of twelve Battalions
 ' of Foot, commanded by Lieutenant-
 ' General *Schutz*, which entered at once
 ' with great Vigour and Resolution: His
 ' Grace hasten'd our Line of Foot thi-
 ' ther, to support them ; which, though
 ' it

‘ it was at a great Distance, yet came up
 ‘ soon enough to beat the Enemy quite
 ‘ out of the Village; and at the same
 ‘ Time charged the rest of their Foot
 ‘ that were posted behind the *Gbeete*, as
 ‘ is above-mentioned; and my Lord Duke
 ‘ ordered the *English* Horse to support
 ‘ them.

‘ By this Time the Enemies Right
 ‘ Wing of Horse being entirely defeated,
 ‘ the Horse of our Left fell upon the Foot
 ‘ on their Right; of whom they slew
 ‘ great Numbers, cutting to pieces about
 ‘ twenty of their Battalions, whose Co-
 ‘ lours they took, and likewise their Can-
 ‘ non. The rest of the Enemies Foot
 ‘ were entirely broken: The Horse of
 ‘ their Left Wing seemed to make a Stand,
 ‘ to gain Time for their Foot to retire;
 ‘ but were charged so quick, and with so
 ‘ much Bravery by the *English* Horse,
 ‘ that they entirely abandon’d their Foot;
 ‘ and our Dragoons, pushing into the
 ‘ Village of *Autreglise*, made a terrible
 ‘ Slaughter of them. The *French* King’s
 ‘ own Regiment of Foot, called the Re-
 ‘ giment *du Roy*, begged for Quarter,
 ‘ and delivered up their Arms and Colours
 ‘ to the Lord *John Hays*’s Dragoons.

‘ We pursued the Enemy all Night,
 ‘ by the Way of *Judoigne*, as far as *Meldre*;
 ‘ being five Leagues from the Place where

‘ the Action happened, and two from
‘ *Louvain.*’

Conse-
quences
of it.

This Victory, at the Opening of the Campaign, was attended with more numerous happy Consequences to the Allies, than any other during the whole War. *Louvain*, whither the Elector of *Bavaria* and Mareschal *Villeroy* retired after the Battle, was abandoned to the Allies the next Morning. And three Days after the Magistrates of *Brussels*, their next Place of Retreat, sent their Submission to his Grace. In short, the victorious Army took Possession of *Ghent*, *Oudenarde*, *Bruges*, *Antwerp*, and *Coutray*, without Opposition: And the States both of *Brabant* and *Flanders* acknowledged the Archduke, by the Title of *Charles III.* King of *Spain*. *Ostend*, *Menin*, *Dendermond*, and *Aeth*, were all invested and taken the same Summer.

Mr. PRI-
OR's Ode
on the Oc-
casion.

It was no Wonder that such an uncommon Series of Conquest should stagger the Resolution Mr. PRIOR had taken, and oblige him to resume his neglected Lyre. And how admirably he has transfused into his Ode the *impetuous Heat* of *Horace*, and all the Graces of *Spenser's* Diction, must be obvious to every judicious Reader. I believe we may ascribe it to this Piece, that we have since had so many
Imitations

Imitations of our antient Poets: For I do not remember that any of our Moderns wrote in this Way before Mr. PRIOR, nor that he has done it in any Thing anterior to the Ode we are now upon. Observe with what Dignity he leads forth his Hero to the Field, in the fifth and sixth Stanza, after having propos'd the Subject of his Poem, and address'd it to her Majesty:

As the strong Eagle in the silent Wood,
Mindless of Warlike Rage, and hostile Care,
Plays round the rocky Cliff, or crystal Flood;
'Till by Jove's high Behests call'd out to War,
And charg'd with Thunder of his angry King,
His Bosom with the vengeful Message glows:
Upward the noble Bird directs his Wing;
And tow'ring round his Master's Earth-born Foes,
Swift he collects his fatal Stock of Ire;
Lifts his fierce Talon high, and dares the forked Fire.

Sedate and calm thus Victor MARLBRO' fate,
Shaded with Laurels, in his Native Land;
'Till ANNA calls Him from his soft Retreat,
And gives her Second Thunder to his Hand.
Then leaving sweet Repose, and gentle Ease,
With ardent Speed he seeks the distant Foe:
Marching o'er Hills and Vales, o'er Rocks and Seas,
He meditates, and strikes the wond'rous Blow.
Our Thought flies slower than our General's Fame:
Grasps he the Bolt? (we ask) when he has hurl'd the
Flame.

But

But when he comes to bring on the
 Foe to the Charge ; to shew us *Marlbo-*
rough and *Auverquerque* at the Head of
 their Troops, sustaining the Shock ; to
 display the Passions of the *English* Soldiers
 at their General's Fall, and the fierce Ex-
 ultation of the Elector of *Bavaria* on the
 same Occasion ; when he describes *Con-*
quest as a constant Inhabitant in *Marlbo-*
rough's Camp, and sets before us the Flight
 and Pursuit ; in what admirable Colours
 does he paint every Circumstance !

And now fierce GALLIA rushes on her Foes,
 Her Force augmented by the BOYAN Bands:
 So VOLGA's Stream, increas'd by Mountain Snows,
 Rolls with new Fury down thro' RUSSIA's Lands.
 Like two great Rocks against the raging Tide
 (If Virtue's Force with Nature's we compare)
 Unmov'd the two united Chiefs abide,
 Sustain the Impulse, and receive the War.
 Round their firm Sides in vain the Tempest beats;
 And still the foaming Wave with lessen'd Pow'r re-
 treats.

The Rage dispers'd, the glorious Pair advance,
 With mingled Anger, and collected Might,
 To turn the War, and tell aggressing FRANCE,
 How BRITAIN's Sons, and BRITAIN's Friends
 can fight.

On Conquest fix'd, and covetous of Fame,
 Behold them rushing thro' the GALLIC Host.
 Thro' standing Corn so runs the sudden Flame,
 Or eastern Winds along SICILIA's Coast.

They

They deal their Terrors to the adverse Nation :
Pale Death attends their Arms, and ghastly Desolation.

But while with fiercest Ire *BELLONA* glows,
And *EUROPE* rather hopes than fears her Fate;
While *BRITAIN* presses her afflicted Foes ;
What Horror damps the Strong, and quells the Great?
Whence look the Soldiers Cheeks dismay'd and pale ?
Erst ever dreadful, know they now to dread ?
The hostile Troops, I ween, almost prevail ;
And the Pursuers only not recede.
Alas! their lessen'd Rage proclaims their Grief!
For anxious, lo! they croud around their falling Chief.

I thank thee, Fate, exclaims the fierce *BAVAR*;
Let *BOYA's* Trumpet grateful Io's sound :
I saw him fall, their Thunderbolt of War : ———
Ever to Vengeance sacred be the Ground ———
Vain Wish! short Joy! the Hero mounts again
In greater Glory, and with fuller Light.
The Ev'ning Star so falls into the Main,
To rise at Morn more prevalently bright.
He rises safe: But near, too near his Side,
A good Man's grievous Loss, a faithful Servant dy'd.

Propitious *MARS*! the Battle is regain'd:
The Foe with lessen'd Wrath disputes the Field:
The *BRITON* fights, by fav'ring Gods sustain'd:
Freedom must live; and lawless Power must yield.
Vain now the Tales which fab'ling Poets tell,
That wav'ring *CONQUEST* still desires to rove!
In *MARLBRO's* Camp the Goddess knows to dwell:
Long as the Hero's Life remains her Love.

Again

Again FRANCE flies: Again the Duke pursues
And on RAMILLIA's Plains he BLENHEIM's Fame
renews.

His Picture of the *Bavarian* Prince in another Place, and Expostulation with him on his present Misfortunes, is altogether sublime. The Speech he puts into the Mouth of the *Royal Treaty-Breaker*, as he calls the *French* King, upon receiving the News of his Army's Defeat, wherein he recapitulates the Honours of the *British* Nation, and owns the Superiority of the *Woman Chief*, is also finely wrought up. And the Column he erects at the End of his Poem, to the Honour of his Mistress and her Commanders, will out-last the stateliest Monument of Brass or Marble. But these being too long to transcribe, I must refer the Reader to the Ode itself, and proceed with our History.

Overtures
of Peace
made by
the *French*:

The prodigious Losses sustained by the *French* in this and the preceding Campaigns, obliged them, in the Winter, to make Overtures of Peace to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the States-General. On his Grace's Arrival at the *Hague* in *December*, a Letter from the Elector of *Bavaria* to him, and another to the Field-Deputies, with their respective Answers, were communicated to the Ministers of the rest of the Allies. As these were
the

the first public Advances that were made towards that general Pacification, in which Mr. PRIOR was some Years after concerned, I shall insert the Letter to the Duke, with his Answer. The other Letter and Answer are of the same Tenour.

“ THE most Christian King, Sir, finding, that some Overtures of Peace, which he had caused to be made by private Ways, had, instead of producing the Effect of making known his Dispositions for promoting a general Peace, been looked upon, by ill-designing Persons, as an Artifice to disunite the Allies, and make an Advantage of the Misunderstanding that might be created among them, has resolved to shew the Sincerity of his Intentions, by renouncing all secret Negotiations, and openly proposing Conferences, in which Means may be found for re-establishing the Tranquillity of Europe.

The Elector of Bavaria's Letter to the Duke of Marlborough, proposing a Treaty of Peace.

“ The most Christian King is pleased to commission me to inform you of this, and to desire you to acquaint the Queen of England with it.

“ I give the like Notification on the part of the most Christian King to the States-General, by a Letter I have written to the Field-Deputies; and he would

“ do

“ do the like with regard to the other
 “ Potentates that are at War with him,
 “ had they Ministers so near at hand as
 “ you are to receive the like Intimation;
 “ he having no Design to exclude any of
 “ the said Potentates from the Negotia-
 “ tion, that shall be begun in the Con-
 “ ferences he proposes.

“ Farther, for the advancing a Good
 “ so great and necessary to *Europe*, which
 “ has too long suffered the inevitable Ca-
 “ lamities of War; he consents, that a
 “ Place may forthwith be chosen between
 “ the two Armies, and after their Separation
 “ between *Mons* and *Brussels*; in
 “ which, with you, Sir, *with whom the*
 “ *Interests of England are so safely en-*
 “ *trusted*, the Deputies the States shall
 “ please to nominate, and the Persons
 “ whom the King of *France* shall im-
 “ power, they may open their Intentions
 “ upon so important an Affair. I am ex-
 “ tremely pleased, Sir, to have such an
 “ Occasion to make you this Overture;
 “ being persuaded, it will leave no room
 “ for making a Doubt of the Senti-
 “ ments of his most Christian Majesty;
 “ and, as it may be so beneficial to all
 “ *Europe*, you will be glad to give an
 “ Account of this to the Queen of *En-*
 “ *gland*, without Loss of Time, and to
 “ whomsoever else you shall think fit.

“ I

“ I shall expect your Answer, Sir, to
“ communicate it to the most Christian
“ King, and shall be always ready, Sir,
“ to do you Service.

Sign'd

Mons, October 21, 1706.

M. EMANUEL, Elector.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH's Answer.

S I R,

“ **H**AVING communicated to the The Duke
“ Queen, my Mistress, what your of Marlbo-
“ Electoral Highness did me the Honour rough's
“ to write to me in your Letter of the Answer.
“ 21st of last Month, of the Intentions
“ of the most Christian King to endea-
“ vour to re-establish the Tranquillity of
“ Europe, by Conference to be held for
“ that Purpose between Deputies on both
“ Sides; Her Majesty has commanded
“ me to answer your Electoral Highness,
“ that it is a Pleasure to her to be inform-
“ ed of the King's Inclinations to agree to
“ the making of a solid and lasting Peace
“ with all the Allies. As this is the sole
“ End, that obliges her Majesty to con-
“ tinue this War till now; so she will
“ be very glad to conclude it, in concert
“ with all her Allies, on Conditions that
“ may

“ may secure them from all Apprehensi-
 “ ons of being forced to take up Arms again,
 “ after a short Interval, as happened last
 “ Time. Her Majesty is also willing
 “ I should declare, that she is ready to
 “ enter jointly, with all the High Allies,
 “ into just and necessary Measures for
 “ settling such a Peace; her Majesty being
 “ determined, not to enter upon any Ne-
 “ gotiation without the Participation of
 “ her said Allies; but the Way of Con-
 “ ferences, that is proposed, without
 “ more particular Declarations on the
 “ Part of his most Christian Majesty,
 “ does not seem proper to her for attain-
 “ ing a truly solid and lasting Peace. Their
 “ Lordships the States-Generals are of
 “ the same Opinion; therefore your Elec-
 “ toral Highness will rightly judge, that
 “ it is necessary to think of other more
 “ solid Means to attain so great an End;
 “ to which her Majesty will contribute
 “ with all the Sincerity, that can be
 “ shewed; having nothing so much at
 “ Heart, as the Relief of her Subjects,
 “ and the Tranquillity of *Europe*. Your
 “ Electoral Highness will always do me
 “ the Justice to be persuaded of the Re-
 “ spect, with which I have the Honour
 “ to be, &c.

Hague, Nov. 20. 1706.

The War at this Time carrying on, was no doubt a just one on the part of the Allies: But it seems unaccountable that they should not hearken to Proposals of Peace, when made openly by the common Enemy. As it will be very much my Business, in the remaining Part of this Work, to defend the Accommodation that was afterwards agreed on, I shall, as I go on, give my Readers the Reflections that have been made on these Letters, and all the other Negotiations of Peace that were not effectual. The grand Charge against the Queen's last Ministry, among whom we must number Mr. PRIOR, was the making a dishonourable Peace; and the Negotiations of this Treaty were the chief Subject of Inquiry in the Secret Committee, before whom we shall see Mr. PRIOR examined: But if we shall make it appear, that far from being improper at that Time, a Peace was long before highly necessary, and might have been made with the greatest Advantage to the Allies, it will complete Mr. PRIOR's Vindication of the Measures then taken, in his Answer to *The Report of the secret Committee*, which, so far as he carried it, will be inserted in its proper Place at large, from a Manuscript corrected by himself.

I will only make one Remark before I proceed; which is, that if Mr. PRIOR,

or the Authors I quote in his Behalf, should not treat the Duke of *Marlborough's* Conduct in what follows with all that Respect, and even Veneration that appears in the foregoing Poems, it ought to be attributed to the manifest Alteration that was discovered in his Grace's Conduct, and his seeming Backwardness to conclude the War, after he had, to all Appearance, obtained the Ends for which it was undertaken. Mr. PRIOR's Attachment to any particular Man, could not make him forego his real Principles; which led him to pursue the Peace and Happiness, rather than the Honour and Reputation of his Country.

Remarks
on the
foregoing
Letters.

‘ It appears from the foregoing Letters*,
‘ that there had been a secret Negotiation
‘ carried on between the *French*, the De-
‘ puties, and his Grace, and Terms had
‘ been offered; but it was not thought
‘ convenient to accept of them, or to
‘ publish any thing more relating to the
‘ Treaty, than these Letters: But, as
‘ this Overture for a Treaty is said to have
‘ been intended only to amuse and divide
‘ the Allies, surely we might have entered
‘ into a Treaty, whether we had liked
‘ their Terms, or not, if it had been

* Modern History, Vol. XXV. p. 342.

only to amuse the Enemy, and prevent the Loss of that Part of *Spain* that had declared for King CHARLES, till we could have sent a Body of Troops to their Protection: For our Ministers were not ignorant at that Time, That the *French* and *Spaniards* were superior to the Allies in that Kingdom: That the Confederate Army had already been forced to abandon the Towns in *Castile* that had declared for King CHARLES, and leave the miserable Natives to the Mercy of the Enemy: That the remaining Provinces of *Arragon*, *Catalonia*, and *Valencia*, which the Allies yet possessed, would also probably be compelled to submit to King PHILIP again the next Campaign, by the Superiority of Troops that Prince had already, as well as by the great Reinforcements the *French* King was sending to *Spain*, now the War in *Italy* was at an End; for we took very little Care, to re-inforce our Army either from *England* or *Italy*, from whence twenty or thirty thousand Men might have been sent this Winter, and have established King CHARLES on that Throne, and thereby have put an End to the War at once, if this had been our Design. The Lord *Peterborough* was so sensible of this Neglect, and of the great Preparations the

‘ French King was making to fix his
‘ Grandson on the Throne of *Spain*, that
‘ he wrote the most moving Letters to
‘ the Court of *England*, not to abandon
‘ that People and their own Troops to in-
‘ evitable Destruction; and actually made
‘ a Voyage to *Italy*, where the Confede-
‘ rates had at this Time upwards of sixty
‘ thousand Men (and no Enemy that
‘ durst appear in the Field) in order to
‘ procure a Re-inforcement of Troops,
‘ and at the same time begged of the Con-
‘ federate Generals in *Spain*, to remain
‘ upon the Defensive, till a Body of
‘ Troops could be sent over; foreseeing
‘ they could not resist the United Forces
‘ of *France* and *Spain*, if a Battle hap-
‘ pened, before they received fresh Sup-
‘ plies. But the Allies neither took care
‘ to send Forces in time, to defend the
‘ *Spaniards* that had declared for them;
‘ nor would enter into a Treaty of Peace,
‘ whereby they might have preserved the
‘ Provinces they possessed in *Spain*, till a
‘ Re-inforcement had been got ready: To
‘ which stupid or treacherous Conduct we
‘ may justly ascribe the Loss of that King-
‘ dom; for when this People had been so
‘ exceeding forward to declare for us, and
‘ found themselves deserted and aban-
‘ doned to the Rage of their incensed
‘ Prince, they could never be prevailed
‘ on

‘ on to rely on the Honour of the Allies
‘ a second time.

‘ But farther, it is evident from some
‘ Letters and Papers that the Allies pub-
‘ lished themselves this Winter, that they
‘ might then have had a Peace that would
‘ have answered all the Ends of the Grand
‘ Alliance, and even have obtained a great
‘ deal more than the Confederates propo-
‘ sed to themselves at the Beginning of
‘ the War, if that would have contented
‘ them.

‘ In a Letter, said to be written by The
‘ Monsieur *Chamillard*, Secretary to the *French* of-
‘ *French* King, to the Duke of *Berwick*, fer to yield
‘ Captain-General of the *French* Forces all that
‘ in *Castile*, and said to be intercepted by was de-
‘ the Allies, are these Expressions: “ The manded
‘ ill Success of our Armies in *Flanders* by the Al-
‘ and *Italy*, hath obliged his Majesty to lies at the
‘ make Overtures of Peace, not very Beginning
‘ agreeable to the Honour and Interest of of the
‘ *France*. The supporting *Spain* may be War.
‘ the Ruin of *France*; to prevent which,
‘ the King hath resolved to hearken to the
‘ hard and unsufferable Terms of Peace.
‘ Whilst his Majesty's Ministers are in
‘ Treaty, it will be necessary to quit
‘ *Spain*; and that your Excellency use all
‘ Artifices to ruin the Country, that it be
‘ not in a Condition for many Years to
‘ think of any Thing more, than to repair

‘ its own Losses, and be incapable of de-
 ‘ fending itself alone.

‘ The second Letter, published by the
 ‘ Allies, was that from the *French King*
 ‘ to the Pope; wherein that Monarch
 ‘ tells his Holiness, That the King of
 ‘ *Spain*, his Grandson, had entrusted him
 ‘ with Powers to transfer to the Archduke
 ‘ (King CHARLES III.) Part of the Domi-
 ‘ nions which compose the *Spanish Mo-*
 ‘ narchy: That the Catholick King had
 ‘ the Hearts of the true *Spaniards*, and
 ‘ contended himself to reign over them;
 ‘ He was willing to relinquish the *Mila-*
 ‘ *nese, Naples, Sicily*, with the other I-
 ‘ slands in the *Mediterranean* belonging
 ‘ to *Spain*, to the Archduke; and that
 ‘ they should be for ever united to the
 ‘ House of *Austria*: That he was ready
 ‘ also to give the *United Provinces* a Bar-
 ‘ rier: And thus the two Pretences of the
 ‘ War being removed, an End might be
 ‘ put to the Misfortunes *Europe* had so
 ‘ long groaned under.

A Resolu-
 tion to
 continue
 the War
 till *France*
 and *Spain*
 were sub-
 dued.

‘ But, as the Battle of *Blenheim* had
 ‘ given the Allies Hopes of making an
 ‘ entire Conquest of the *Spanish Domini-*
 ‘ ons; so the Victories of *Ramillies* and
 ‘ *Turin* had inspired them with a Resolu-
 ‘ tion of continuing the War till *France*
 ‘ was conquered, as will be abundantly
 ‘ evident from the Operations of the suc-
 ‘ ceeding

ceeding Campaign: And thus, by grasping at too much, the Allies lost what they had already gained.

The succeeding Campaign, here referred to, was indeed very unlike that we have last described. The Battle of *Almanza* was lost in *Spain*, to the Ruin of King CHARLES's Affairs in that Kingdom. The Emperor was unsuccessful upon the *Rhine*, and it was even with Difficulty that he defended his Hereditary Dominions, without sending any Forces into *Flanders*. In this latter Place the Dukes of *Marlborough* and *Vendosme*, each of them at the Head of an hundred thousand Men, spent their Time in looking upon one another, without attempting to come to an Engagement. An Enterprize was concerted against *Toulon*, the best Harbour in *France*, and where most of the Royal Navy is laid up: But tho' the Duke of *Savoy* and Prince *Eugene* conducted it by Land, and had the Assistance of Sir *Cloudesley Shovel* with his Fleet, the whole came to nothing.

From a Letter of the Earl of *Peterborough's* to the *Portuguese* Ambassador in King CHARLES's Court, written before the fatal Battle of *Almanza*, and a Memorial presented after it to her *Britannic Majesty*

Remarks
on the
Campaign
of 1707.

by the Imperial and *Spanish* Ministers, * it appears, That his Catholic Majesty, and the *Germans* about him, as well as the Earl of *Peterborough*, were against fighting, till fresh Succours should arrive. It is also certain, that there was no Necessity of fighting; for they had Forces enough to defend the Frontiers of *Valencia* and *Arragon*, and might have been supported and supplied with Provisions by the *English* Fleet, then in the *Mediterranean*; but the chief Command, as well as the Post of Honour, being yielded by the Earl of *Galway* to the *Portuguese*; and the Earl concurring with the Marquis *das Minas* in all his Projects, neglected entirely the Advice both of the King and the Earl of *Peterborough*; who, not thinking it for the Honour of the *German* or *British* Nations, to submit to the Dictates of the *Portuguese* General, unhappily left the Army in *Valencia*, before the Battle of *Almanza*: And it is very reasonable to believe, that King CHARLES had much the same Inducement not to join the Army near *Madrid* the Year before. He knew the *Portuguese* would not yield the Command to him, even in *Spain*; which must have rendered him contemptible in the Eyes of the *Spaniards*, and

* Modern History Vol. XXV. p. 408

naturally have been of very ill Consequence to his Affairs.

Nor can the Conduct of our Generals in other Places be defended in every Instance. What can be said for our lying idle Spectators in *Flanders*, when our Friends in *Spain* were reduced to the last Extremity, and the Duke of *Savoy* and Prince *Eugene* marched into South *France*, to besiege *Toulon*. Surely, if ever it was necessary to give the Enemy some Diversion in *Flanders*, this was the Time, in order to prevent their sending Re-inforcements to *Spain* or *Provence*. Can we imagine, that the Duke of *Marlborough*, at the Head of the finest Army that ever the World saw (one hundred thousand Veteran Troops) who had beaten the Enemy the Year before, destroyed and taken twenty Thousand of their best Troops, and taken Towns before their Faces without Number, either wanted Courage or Stratagems this Campaign, to alarm and distress his baffled Enemy, who fled before him the last, and were not yet recovered from their Panic? No, this cannot be supposed; and I wish his Friends would furnish us with a better Reason for this indolent Conduct, than that he did not heartily desire to see a speedy End put to the War. The Presumptions are strong against him. Had he acted with the same

Vigour

Vigour he had done hitherto, and the Duke of *Savoy* entered *Provence* at the same time with sixty thousand Men, instead of forty (as he might have done, if that Detachment had not been made to *Naples*) the *French* King would probably have been brought upon his Knees, and readily have yielded up *Spain* and the *West-Indies*, as well as the rest of the *Spanish* Territories, notwithstanding his Victory at *Almanza*. The *German* General's sending fifteen thousand Men therefore to *Naples*, and the Duke's Inaction in *Flanders*, could, according to some, proceed from nothing else, but an Apprehension that the War would have been brought to too speedy a Conclusion. These great Men, it must be acknowledged, made a much greater Figure in War, than they could expect to make in Time of Peace; courted universally at home and abroad, and golden Showers perpetually descending upon them: Temptations too great for mortal Men to resist.

We were bless'd with Success, 'tis true, during this Administration; but surely never was such an ill Use made of Victories. Could it be supposed, when we had been every where victorious, when so considerable a Kingdom as *Spain* had just declared for King CHARLES our good Ally, it should have been abandoned by us to
the

the Rage of King PHILIP? Were not the Allies bound, in Honour as well as Interest, to have secured and protected *Spain*, before they had ventured upon that doubtful Enterprize against *Toulon*? They would afterwards have been in a better Condition to have invaded *France*; and *Naples*, every body agrees, would have fallen of itself. To suffer the Kingdom of *Spain* therefore to be wrested out of our Hands, when the People had declared for us, and we had so vast a Superiority of Troops in *Italy*, and a much better Army in *Flanders* than the *French* had there, will scarce admit of an Apology.

It could hardly be expected that the *French*, after this Turn in their Favour, should apply the next Winter for an Accommodation. And indeed if they had done it, there is little room to think their Proposals would have been listened to: For so did the Councils of the Ministry prevail in general, that nothing but an entire Reduction of the whole *Spanish* Monarchy was held sufficient on our Parts, tho' much of it had been lost back in the preceding Campaign. That this was the Sense of both Houses of Parliament, we learn from their Address of the 23d of *December*; and her Majesty's Answer, annexed thereto, shews how the Ministry was inclined.

“ We

The Address of
both Houses,
that no Peace
can be safe
without
recovering
the whole
Spanish
Monarchy.

“ WE, your Majesty’s most dutiful
“ and loyal Subjects, the Lords
“ Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons
“ in Parliament assembled, having been al-
“ ways fully persuaded, that nothing could
“ restore a just Balance of Power in *Europe*,
“ *but the reducing the whole Spanish Mo-*
“ *narchy to the Obedience of the House of*
“ Austria, and having seen several great
“ Parts of that Monarchy, by the Blef-
“ sing of God upon the victorious Arms
“ of your Majesty, and your Allies, al-
“ ready in the Possession of that House ;
“ do think it, not only seasonable, but
“ necessary, at this Juncture, humbly to
“ offer this our unanimous Opinion to
“ your Majesty, *That no Peace can be*
“ *honourable or safe for your Majesty, or*
“ *your Allies, if Spain, the West-Indies,*
“ *or any Part of the Spanish Monarchy,*
“ *be suffered to remain under the Power of*
“ *the House of Bourbon.*

They
complain
of the De-
ficiences
of the Al-
lies.

“ When we consider, what Efforts this
“ Kingdom has continued to make from
“ the Beginning of the War, we cannot
“ but think a much greater Impression
“ might have been made upon the Ene-
“ my before this time, *if some of our Al-*
“ *lies, who seem principally concerned, and*
“ *have reaped the most immediate Advan-*
“ *tage, had seconded your Majesty with like*
“ *Vigour,*

“ *Vigour*, whereby *France* might have
“ been equally press’d on all Sides.

“ We are obliged to return our humble
“ Thanks to your Majesty, for the Care
“ you have taken, and the Instances you
“ have used with his Imperial Majesty,
“ for sending a considerable Force to the
“ Relief of *Spain*, under the Command
“ of Prince *Eugene*; as being certainly
“ the most likely Method to restore the
“ Affairs of the Confederacy in that
“ Country.

“ But the frequent *Disappointments* we
“ have observed on the part of the Empe-
“ ror and Empire, to the great Prejudice
“ of the common Cause, make us think it
“ our Duty, in order that the War may
“ be brought to a speedy and happy Con-
“ clusion, to beseech your Majesty to
“ make the most pressing Instances to the
“ Emperor, that he would, with all Ex-
“ pedition, send powerful Succours to
“ his Brother the King of *Spain*, under
“ the Conduct of that great and success-
“ ful General; that he would timely and
“ effectually make good what has been
“ concerted for his putting twenty thou-
“ sand Men under the Command of the
“ Duke of *Savoy*, and would also make
“ Use of his utmost Power and Interest
“ for strengthening the Army upon the
“ *Rhine*, which is now happily put under
“ the

“ the Command of that wise and valiant
 “ Prince the Elector of *Hanover*.

“ We believe, no part of this can be
 “ refused, upon your Majesty’s earnest
 “ Interposition, who have done such
 “ great Things for the House of *Austria*;
 “ and this being complied with, we
 “ may reasonably hope, by God’s Assis-
 “ tance, the next will prove a happy and
 “ glorious Campaign.”

Her Majesty’s most gracious Answer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The
 Queen’s
 Answer.

“ I AM fully of your Opinion, that
 “ no Peace can be honourable or safe
 “ for us, or for our Allies, *till the entire*
 “ *Monarchy of Spain be restored to the*
 “ *House of Austria*; and am very well
 “ pleased to find, that the Measures I
 “ have concerted for the Succour of the
 “ King of *Spain*, are so well approved
 “ by both Houses of Parliament.

“ I shall continue my most pressing In-
 “ stances with the Emperor, for the
 “ hastening of farther Succours, and that
 “ they may be commanded by Prince
 “ *Eugene*; as also, upon all the other
 “ Particulars mentioned in your Address.”

Nor

Nor did the Commons act less vigorously in granting Supplies, than they had expressed themselves in their Address. The Consequences of which were, that an Enterprize of the Pretender and *France* against *Scotland* was easily repell'd, and the Allies got early into the Field the ensuing Summer. Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough* met at the *Hague* in the Beginning of *April*, and conjointly waited on the Elector of *Hanover*, who commanded on the *Rhine*. At this Congress it was agreed, that the Imperialists should remain upon the Defensive in *Germany*, and detach what Forces they could spare under the Command of Prince *Eugene*, to act in Conjunction with those of the Duke of *Marlborough* in *Flanders*, where the Allies proposed to make their greatest Efforts this Campaign. Accordingly the Duke of *Marlborough* took the Field about the Middle of *May*; and, having posted himself on the Enemy's Frontiers, drew most of the Garrisons out of the Towns in *Flanders*, imagining they were sufficiently covered from the Attacks of the Enemy by his Army: But the *Flemmings*, who were generally better affected to the *French* than the *Dutch*, as well upon the account of Religion, as other Considerations; and retaining a very great Affec-
tion

Campaign
of 1708.

Resolved
to make
the great-
est Efforts
in *Flanders*.

tion for the Elector of *Bavaria*, who had lately governed them with great Humanity and Tenderneſs, readily liſtened to his Invitation to ſubmit to King *PHILIP*, and promiſed to open their Gates, if a Detachment of the *French* Troops ſhould appear before them in the Abſence of the Confederate Army. The principal Towns that had entered into this Conſpiracy,

Ghent and *Bruges* delivered up to the *French* by the Inhabitants.

were, *Antwerp*, *Ghent*, and *Bruges*; but the Treachery of *Antwerp* was diſcovered, and prevented: However, a Body of *French* Troops having found Means to paſs the Duke of *Marlbrough*'s Army undiscovered; and, coming before *Ghent* and *Bruges* in the Night-time, were let in by the Burghers, and poſſeſſed themſelves of thoſe two great Cities; and from thence the *French* Army marched into *Dutch Flanders*, and laid that Country

The Duke of *Burgundy* beſieges *Oudenarde*

under Contribution. About which Time, the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Berry* taking the Field, and joining the Duke of *Vendosme*, they had ſo great a Superiority of Troops before the *Germans* joined the Duke of *Marlbrough*, that they ventured to lay Siege to *Oudenarde*, which was inveſted the 9th of *July*. Whereupon the Duke of *Marlbrough*, who was joined about the ſame Time by Prince *Eugene*, and Part of the *Germans*, made a very long ſwift March to the Relief of
that

that Place. On the Approach of the Allies, the *French* thought fit to raise the Siege, and prepare for an Engagement; and the Confederate Generals not declining it, a Battle ensued, of which the *Dutch* Deputies in the Army gave the following Relation to the States-General.

Rises from
before it
on the Ap-
proach of
the Allies.

High and Mighty Lords,

“ OUR Army, having marched on
“ Sunday Night from *Asche*, took
“ the Road of *Lessines*, in order to pass
“ the *Dender* at that Place; which was
“ done without Opposition from the
“ Enemy, whom we had prevented by a
“ sudden March; and, arriving there on
“ Tuesday Evening, we understood that
“ the Enemy were marched from *Alost*
“ towards *Gavre*, where they caused
“ Bridges to be made, in order to pass the
“ *Scheld*; which made us believe they
“ designed to post themselves upon the
“ Height of *Oudenarde*, and hinder us
“ from passing the *Scheld*; and, though
“ our Army was very much fatigued by
“ the foregoing March, yet we resolved
“ to proceed on our March Yesterday;
“ and, if possible, to prevent the Enemy:
“ We detach’d therefore sixteen Battalions
“ in the Night to take Post on the other
“ Side the *Scheld* near *Oudenarde*, and to
“ T lay

The Battle of Oudenarde.

“ lay the Bridges necessary for our Passage. Yesterday Morning, about Nine, we received Advice that the Enemy had passed the *Scheld*, and were marching towards *Oudenarde*; which made us hasten our March as much as possible, for fear our Detachment that was sent over should be defeated, and ourselves prevented in our Design of passing the *Scheld*. But, by that Time the Enemy was come near *Oudenarde*, they saw we had already taken Post over the *Scheld*, which made them resolve to strike off to the Right; but, to cover their March against ours, they thought fit to throw their Troops into the Hedges, and into a Village upon the *Scheld* below *Oudenarde*. About Three in the Afternoon, as soon as our Foot began to come up, it was judged adviseable to attack the Village; and thereby oblige the Enemy to go no farther, but stop their March: This Attack was made with so much Vigour and Success, that the Enemy was immediately driven out of the Village, our Men falling upon them with their Bayonets in the Muzzles of their Muskets, and not firing a Piece; so that they presently threw down their Arms, and a whole Brigade, together with the Brigadier, surrendered Prisoners.

“ The

“ The few Horse that had passed with
“ the Detachment, attacked likewise the
“ *French* Squadrons, posted behind the
“ Village, with so much Success, that
“ they were put into Disorder, and push-
“ ed; our Men taking from them eight
“ or ten Standards, and some Horses.
“ Hereupon the Enemy were forced to
“ face about to us, and form themselves
“ about four of the Clock; when most
“ of our Foot being over and formed,
“ the general Engagement began first on
“ the Right, and afterwards on the Left
“ Wing: The Fight was properly be-
“ tween the Foot, and was obstinate;
“ but our Men got Ground, and drove
“ the Enemy from one Hedge to another,
“ till Night put an End to the Combat:
“ The Horse, who by Reason of the
“ broken Ground could not act, were de-
“ tach'd to the Right and Left Wing;
“ and advanced so far, that they attacked
“ the Enemy in Flank and Rear; which
“ when they perceived, they fell in the
“ Night into the utmost Confusion, and
“ Part of them retired, with the Baggage
“ and Artillery, towards *Ghent* and *Deynse*;
“ another Part towards the Road of *Cour-*
“ *tray*; and, according to Computation,
“ six or seven thousand surrender'd them-
“ selves Prisoners, with three or four
“ hundred Officers at their Head; among

“ whom are several Dukes and General
 “ Officers. Had not the Night come to
 “ their Assistance, we believe they would
 “ have saved very little of their Army.
 “ We therefore congratulate your High
 “ Mightinesses upon this complete Victory,
 “ which God Almighty has so graciously
 “ vouchsafed; and which gives us an Op-
 “ portunity, with this victorious Army,
 “ and that of Prince *Eugene*, who was
 “ present at this Action, to extend the
 “ Frontiers farther, and bring the Enemy
 “ to Reason. Each General made so
 “ good a Disposition, and every Regiment
 “ attacked the Enemy so well, and with
 “ so much Intrepidity, that it was impos-
 “ sible for any one to signalize himself in
 “ a particular Manner. Our Loss, God
 “ be thanked, is so small, that there is
 “ not, as we know of, one Regiment out
 “ of a Condition to make the rest of the
 “ Campaign. Among the Horse, our
 “ Loss is nothing at all; nor do we yet
 “ know that we have lost any Head Of-
 “ ficer of the State. With which,

High and Mighty Lords, &c.

Oudenarde, July 12, 1708.

The Confederates, after this Victory,
 levelled the *French* Lines between *Ypres*
 and the *Lys*, and raised Contributions in
Artois

Artois and *Picardy* ; which put the City of *Paris* itself into Consternation ; and possibly the *French* were not displeased to see the Allies sit down before *Lisle*, which they knew would stop their Progress for some Months.

The City of *Lisle* besieged.

I shall not give the History of this Siege at large, though it was one of the most remarkable in the whole War. It is sufficient to observe, that the Besiegers lost a great Number of Men, had their Provisions almost exhausted, and were in Danger of being obliged to quit the Enterprize. Their Communication with *Brussels*, whence they expected Supplies, was cut off by the *French* Army, and it was with great Difficulty and Hazard that they got Provisions from *Ostend* : For in attempting of this happened the famous Battle at *Wynendale*, under General *Webb* ; which, considering the Inequality of Numbers, and other Disadvantages on the Side of the *English*, was not inferior to any other. *Webb* had in the Action only six thousand Men, and left an equal Number of the Enemy dead on the Field, with the Loss of only nine hundred killed and wounded. In short, he got a complete Victory over an Army of 24,000 Horse and Foot, commanded by the Count *de la Motte* ; secured all the Carriages, and ena-

Battle of *Wynendale*.

bled the grand Army to finish the Reduction of *Lisle*.

Lisle
taken.

Ghent
taken.

A severe
Frost.

The Allies
had two
very nar-
row E-
scapes this
Cam-
paign.

It was not till the 8th of *December*, N. S. that the Castle of *Lisle* surrendered. Ten Days after the Duke of *Marlborough* invested *Ghent*, which he carried in less than a Fortnight. It has been observed, * that his Grace was never more fortunate than in the sudden Reduction of this Place; for the Articles were scarce signed when the severest Frost began that had been known in the Memory of Man: The very Horses Hoofs froze to the Ground, and his Army must infallibly have perished, if the Town had held out a very few Days longer; which had been no difficult Matter, since there was no Breach made in the Walls, and the Count *de la Motte* had a good Army within the Town, supplied with all Necessaries; (and indeed less than an Army could not have defended *Ghent*, which is twelve Miles round upon the Walls.) The Allies, it is true, were in the End very successful in *Flanders* this Campaign; but they had two very narrow Escapes, one at *Wynendale*, and the other at *Ghent*. Had they miscarried at either Place, that fine Army of the Confederates, consisting of Veteran Troops, would infallibly have been ruined; a Loss, that the Allies could

* Modern History, Vol. XXVI. p. 3.

scarce ever have retrieved. It may be considered farther, that the Siege of *Lisle* was the unhappy Occasion of the ill Success of the War in other Places in this Campaign. Our Affairs were again miserably neglected in *Spain* and *Portugal*, to humour the Duke and Prince *Eugene* in this Enterprize: We even broke our Treaty with *Portugal* on their Account, and sent Major-General *Earl* to *Ostend* with eight thousand Men, to assist in protecting the Supplies of Ammunition and Provision, that were continually sending to *Lisle*, when those Forces were raised and embarked for the Service in *Portugal*; which was the Reason the *Portuguese* could make no Diversion on that Side, while the Duke of *Orleans* pressed the Allies in *Catalonia*, and besieged *Tortosa*, which surrendered the 11th of *July*; as did afterwards the Towns of *Denia* and *Alicant* in *Valencia*. Count *Staremburg* had indeed been sent from *Italy* to *Catalonia* with a small Reinforcement of Troops the Beginning of the Year 1708, which enabled him to save the Remainder of *Catalonia*; but he was not in a Condition to act offensively till the latter End of the Year: For the Marquis *das Minas*, the General of the *Portuguese*, and that other unfortunate General the Earl of *Galway*, with the *Portuguese* Forces in *Catalonia*, had been

The Siege of *Lisle* the Occasion of our Losses in *Spain*.

transported from *Catalonia* to *Portugal* to defend that Country; which was highly necessary, after the Allies had failed in sending the Forces to *Portugal*, which they had engaged to do by their Treaty with that Crown.

And, indeed, both King CHARLES and the King of *Portugal* seemed to have agreed upon a Cessation from the Fatigues of War the latter End of this Year, in order to follow softer Amusements. King CHARLES first made his Addresses to the Princess of *Anspach*, our late Queen; who, refusing to alter her Religion for the Sake of a precarious Crown, he courted the Princess of *Wolfembutte*, and was so fortunate as to persuade her to renounce her Protestant Principles, and not only consent to a Marriage, but to go over in Person to *Barcelona*, and consummate her Nuptials there. And as to the King of *Portugal*, he was married by Proxy to *Mary Anne* of *Austria*, the Emperor's second Sister.

The Princess of *Anspach* refuses to turn Papist and marry King CHARLES.

King CHARLES marries the Princess of *Wolfembutte*.

Success of the English at Sea.

Sir John Leake had the good Fortune this Year not only to take and destroy many of the Enemy's Barks in *Italy*, but also to reduce the whole Island of *Sardinia* to the Obedience of King CHARLES, and that of *Minorca*, in which is the commodious Harbour of *Port-Mahon*, for the Service

Service of his Mistress and the *English* Nation. And Commodore *Wager* (since *Sir Charles*) with four *English* Men of War, attacked seventeen *Spanish* Galleons near *Cartagena* in the *West-Indies*, of whom the *Spanish* Admiral, valued at three Millions of Pieces of Eight, was blown up, and the Rear-Admiral taken. The Commodore's Share only of this Prize amounted to 100,000 *l.* and upon his Return home he was made Rear-Admiral for this Piece of Service.

The Severity of the Winter of 1708-9 has been already taken notice of. The *French*, to the Losses they had sustained the last Campaign, had now the additional Misfortune of being destroyed by Famine and the Rigour of the Season. Their Crop failed them the last Year; and this being succeeded by a cold Winter, when they had scarce any Provisions left, Multitudes of their People perished: And that which no less afflicted the Court of *France* was, that the King's Revenues were exhausted; his Funds appeared insufficient to pay the Interest of the national Debt. Mr. *Bernard*, the Principal of his Bankers, and many more of his Brethren, who us'd to make Remittances of Money and foreign Payments, for the Service of that Crown, broke, and abundance

The
French
make O-
vertures of
Peace.

dance of People, before in flourishing Circumstances, who had lodged Money in their Hands, were reduced to a State of Beggary. These Calamities inducing the *French* King to think of Peace in earnest, pacifick Proposals were made by his Ministers about this Time to the States-General and the Duke of *Marlborough*: For his Grace remained in the *Netherlands* great Part of this Winter, to be in Readiness, as was given out, to prevent the *French* General's surprizing the Forces of the Allies, during the Frost. But, probably, the principal Reason of the Duke's remaining on that Side the Water was, to hear what Terms the *French* Ministers would propose: For his Grace, arriving at *London* in *February*, the Belief of his having brought Offers of that Nature from *France* along with him, was so universal, that both Houses agreed upon an Address to her Majesty, desiring, " That the
" *French* King might be obliged to own
" her Majesty's Titles and the Protestant
" Succession, and that the Allies might
" be Guarantees of the same: That the
" Pretender might be removed out of the
" *French* Dominions; and that the Har-
" bour and Fortifications of *Dunkirk*
" might be demolished, upon the Con-
" clusion of a Peace".

About the same Time Monsieur *Petticum*, the Minister of *Holstein*, a Neutral Power, having proposed to the Powers engaged in a War, the entering into Negotiations of Peace, had prevailed with the States to suffer the President *Rouille* to come from the *French* Court into *Holland*, in order to settle Preliminaries with the Allies. The President succeeded so well, that the States and this Minister were in a manner agreed; of which the Emperor and her *British* Majesty being informed, Prince *Eugene* was sent to *Holland* by the Emperor, and arrived at the *Hague* the 27th of *March*; as did the Duke of *Marlborough*, on the Part of *Great Britain*, the 8th of *April*. His Grace, finding that the *French* made very specious Offers, and in a manner granted whatever the Allies could ask, returned to *England* again, to consult the Ministers there; not caring to take the whole Burthen of that Negotiation upon himself: In which he discovered his usual Caution and Prudence; for, as he was General of the Army, and had so great an Interest in continuing the War, he well foresaw, that if he took upon him to reject the advantageous Offers made by the *French*, his Enemies would insinuate, he was governed by private Views: And, on the other hand, should any thing be found in the

Mr. *Petticum*'s Negotiations, and their Effect.

Articles

Articles prejudicial to *Britain*, as he was sole Plenipotentiary on the Part of Her Majesty, the Odium of it would naturally fall on him. He did not therefore only take the Opinion of the rest of the Ministry, before he returned to *Holland*, but took over the Lord *Townshend* with him, as Joint-Plenipotentiary at the intended Treaty; a noble young Lord, that he knew would pay due Regard to the Opinion and Experience of the General:

The Duke
of Marlbo-
rough and
Lord
Townshend
Plenipo-
tentiaries.

And, thus prepared and armed against the Cavils of his Enemies, he returned to the *Hague*, accompanied by the Lord *Townshend*, the Middle of *May*; where they found the Marquis *de Torcy*, Secretary of State to the *French* King, lately arrived to give the last Hand to the Negotiation.

These Gentlemen, together with the Ministers of the rest of the Powers engaged in War, having debated the Terms of a general Peace for some Time, on the 28th of *May*, agreed on Preliminaries of the following Tenor:

“ That a firm and lasting Peace shall
“ be established between the Allies and
“ his most Christian Majesty: That
“ the *French* shall acknowledge King
“ CHARLES to be King of *Spain*, and
“ the Territories dependent on that Crown;
“ and if King PHILIP refuse to consent
“ thereto,

“ thereto, His most Christian Majesty
 “ shall take Measures, in Conjunction
 “ with the Allies, to force him to it; and
 “ his most Christian Majesty shall with-
 “ draw all his Forces out of the Domi-
 “ nions of *Spain*, within two Months:
 “ That the *Spanish* Monarchy shall re-
 “ main entire in the House of *Austria*;
 “ nor shall any King who reigns in *France*,
 “ ever reign in *Spain*, or possess any Part
 “ of its Dominions: That the *French*
 “ King shall deliver up *Strasburg*, *Fort*
 “ *Kehl*, *Landau*, and *Brisac*, to the Empe-
 “ ror; and cause *Hunningen*, *New Brisac*,
 “ and *Fort Louis*, to be demolished: That
 “ he shall acknowledge the Queen of
 “ *Great Britain*, and the Protestant Suc-
 “ cession; banish the Pretender; deliver
 “ to the *English* *Newfoundland*, and de-
 “ molish *Dunkirk*: That he shall relin-
 “ quish to the Powers specified, *Namur*,
 “ *Mons*, *Charleroy*, *Furnes*, *Luxemburg*,
 “ *Menin*, *Lisle*, *Ypres*, *Newport*, *Doway*,
 “ *Tournay*, *Condé*, *Maubege*, *Fort-Knoque*,
 “ and other Places: That to hasten the
 “ Conclusion of a General Peace, a Con-
 “ gress shall begin at the *Hague* Ju-
 “ ly 15”.

The Plenipotentiaries of the Allies hav-
 ing signed these Preliminaries, those of
France declared, they had no Directions to
 sign

The
French re-
 fuse to
 sign the
 Prelimina-
 ries.

sign them: However, the Marquis *de Torcy* said, he would lay them before his Master the most Christian King, and endeavour to procure his Ratification; and that he would acquaint Prince *Eugene* with his Majesty's Resolution, by the fourth of next Month. He then set out for *France*; from whence he sent an Answer according to his Promise: Wherein he told the Prince, That his Majesty found it impossible for him to accept these Terms; and therefore had sent Orders to Monsieur *Rouille*, to notify the same to the Potentates engaged in the War; and that it was to be hoped that more favourable Terms would present, for the establishing a Peace so necessary for all *Europe*.

And Monsieur *Rouille* accordingly acquainted the Ministers of the Allies, that unless they would agree to some Alterations in the Preliminary Articles, his Master could not consent to them: To which the Ministers of the Allies answered, 'That they would not recede from any of the Articles agreed to; and that, if his Master did not think fit to accept them, neither would the Allies think themselves bound by them'. And Monsieur *Rouille* immediately received an Intimation, that he should depart from the *Hague*, which he did the ninth of *June* following.

Upon

Upon the Breaking-off of this Treaty, The French King's Reasons for breaking off this Treaty.
the French King sent Circular Letters to the
Governors of the respective Provinces in
his Dominions, wherein he told them,
“ That, in order to restore Peace, he
“ would have accepted Conditions very
“ opposite to the Security of his Fron-
“ tier Provinces ; but, that the greater
“ Desire he had shewn to dissipate those
“ Umbrages his Enemies affected to have
“ of his Power and Designs, the more
“ they multiplied their Pretensions; and
“ they had let him see, that they had no
“ other Intention, than to enlarge, at the
“ Expence of his Crown, the States bor-
“ dering upon *France*, and to open to
“ themselves easy Ways, to penetrate into
“ the Heart of his Kingdom, as often as
“ it would suit with their Interests to be-
“ gin a new War: That they would give
“ him but two Months, to execute his
“ Part of the Treaty; and during that
“ Time they would oblige him to deliver
“ up the Places they demanded of him
“ in *Alsace* and the *Low-Countries*, and
“ the demolishing those they had insisted
“ on; refusing on their Parts to enter
“ into any other Engagements, than the
“ Suspension of all Acts of Hostility till
“ the first of *August*; and reserving to
“ themselves a Liberty of acting then by
“ Force of Arms, if his Grandson refused
“ to

“ to evacuate the *Spanish* Dominions;
 “ whereof he had for nine Years been
 “ acknowledged King: That such a Suf-
 “ pension would have been more dange-
 “ rous to him than War itself; for so soon
 “ as the Suspension had been expired, his
 “ Enemies would have attacked him under
 “ those new Advantages they would have
 “ reaped from the Towns into which he
 “ himself had introduced them. And he
 “ expresses much Resentment, that the
 “ Confederates should suggest to him the
 “ joining his Forces with theirs, to com-
 “ pel his Grandson to descend the *Spanish*
 “ Throne. He said, The Thought of
 “ engaging him in such an Alliance, was
 “ inhuman: And although the Tender-
 “ ness he had for his People was as hearty
 “ as for his own Children; and though
 “ he bore a Part in all the Ills his faith-
 “ ful Subjects underwent by the War,
 “ and had manifested to all *Europe* his
 “ sincere Desires that they might enjoy
 “ Peace; he was satisfied they would
 “ themselves oppose the Acceptance of it,
 “ on Conditions so opposite to Justice and
 “ the Honour of the *French* Nation”.

As fruitless as these Negotiations were
 in respect to the several Nations engaged
 in the present War, there is no doubt to be
 made but some Statesman on both Sides
 gained

gained their Ends. There were some Ministers on the Part of the Allies, it is said, that dreaded nothing more than Peace; and these found their Account in insisting on such Terms as they knew would never be granted. On the other hand, *France*, that was reduced to the utmost Distress by Famine, and a rigorous Winter that followed it, and saw at the same Time so formidable a Power on her Frontiers, gained her Ends by granting one Demand after another, till she had spun out the Time to almost the Middle of Summer; whereby she had an Opportunity of recruiting her broken Troops, and replenishing her exhausted Stores: And then she gave the Allies to understand, That the Grand Monarch was not yet fallen so low, as to submit to these hard Preliminaries.

But whatever were the Views of *France*, The Campaign in 1709. or of some designing Statesmen among the Allies, the *French* Ministers were no sooner returned, but both Armies prepared to take the Field. The *French* possessed themselves of a Camp naturally strong, and threw up such Intrenchments, that the Allies did not think fit to attack them; but resolved to open the Campaign with the Siege of *Tournay*: And accordingly Tournay besieged, and taken. that Place was invested by the Confederate Troops the 27th of June, N. S. On the

7th of *July* the Trenches were opened, and on the 30th the Town surrendered, and the Garrison marched into the Citadel; which held out till the 3d of *September*, and then surrendered.

Tournay being reduced, the Allies resolved upon the Siege of *Mons*; but Marshal *Villars*, having possessed himself of the strong Camp of *Blaregnies* or *Malplaquet*, in the Woods of *Sart* and *Sansart*, it was found impracticable to form the Siege until the *French* were driven from that Post: Whereupon happened the bloodiest Battle that ever was fought in *Flanders*.

The Battle
of *Blareg-*
nies or
Malpla-
quet.

It was, in reality, a Battle between two Armies of a Side; Prince *Eugene* commanded a complete Army of fifty thousand Men, with Wings of Horse on the Right and Left; and the Duke of *Marlborough* another entire Army, of which the *English* formed the Right, and the *Dutch* the Left; while Marshal *Villars* commanded a separate Army of the *French* on the Left, drawn up against that of Prince *Eugene*; and Marshal *Boufflers* another upon the Right, which engaged that under the Command of the Duke of *Marlborough*. These great Armies lay near each other several Days; and, on the 9th of *September*, the Enemies possessed themselves of the Woods of *Sart* and

and *Sanfart*, where they cut down Trees, erected Batteries, and threw up Intrenchments for their Defence. The same Day, and the next, the Armies on both Sides were drawn up in Order of Battle; and the 10th, in the Evening, the Generals of the Allies resolved to attack the *French*. Accordingly, on the 11th of *September* at Break of Day, the Infantry of the Allies marched in three Lines, and the Cavalry in two Columns, advancing directly towards the Enemy, who were so strongly intrenched, that their Works looked more like a Citadel than a Camp. ‘ Their Left

The fortified Camp of the Enemy.

‘ Wing, as a certain General relates, was covered by a great and thick Wood, in which they had cast up many Intrenchments, and posted their Infantry; and their Right was covered by another Wood and thick Hedge, which run along the same like a Chain; and besides, they had cast up three Intrenchments, and had a marshy Ground before them, which rendered the Access to their Intrenchments still more difficult. Their Center was in a little Plain, where they had cast up several Intrenchments also, one behind the other, all defended in convenient Places with a good Artillery, which annoyed us very much. They had besides cut down the Hedges behind their Lines, for the more easy marching

An Account of the Battle by one of the Generals.

‘ of their Cavalry, to support their Infantry wherever Occasion should require.
‘ In this advantageous Situation we attacked the Enemy, and began to cannonade them about half an Hour past eight, and they answered us with the like Vigour; while all our Forces marched to begin the Attack as the Generals had directed.
‘ The Left Wing of Prince *Eugene’s* Army attacked the Enemy in the Wood aforesaid, about that Time, with all imaginable Vigour; but were received with a great deal of Bravery. We beat the Enemy from that Post, and they beat us again from thence: But, after an obstinate Fight of two Hours, in which abundance of Blood was shed on both Sides, the Soldiers killing one another with their Bayonets and the Butts of their Muskets, we made ourselves Masters of the Wood; and thereupon our whole Left Wing marched, without any Loss of Time, towards the Enemy, and began another Fight as obstinate as the first Attack. As they were covered by three strong Intrenchments, which we were obliged to attack one after another, the Fight continued five Hours with an incredible Fury; but all this while with doubtful Success, because the Enemy rallied several Times, regaining with an extraordinary Valour the Entrenchments
‘ from

‘ from whence we had beaten them : Du-
‘ ring which, they attempted several Times
‘ to drive us from the Wood we had gained;
‘ but we maintained our Ground, and
‘ beat them from all their Intrenchments.
‘ It was about that Time, that their Ca-
‘ valry, which was drawn up in several
‘ Lines, seeing that their Infantry was
‘ beaten from their Post, advanced in very
‘ good Order to charge our Cavalry, and
‘ regain the Intrenchments wherein we
‘ had taken Post; and this new Fight
‘ proved very obstinate: They forced us
‘ sometimes to give Ground, and were
‘ forced, in their Turn, to give Way.
‘ The Action became then more general;
‘ and some Squadrons of the Right Wing
‘ of my Lord Duke's Army being repul-
‘ sed by the great Number of the Enemy,
‘ the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, with some
‘ *Danish* and other Squadrons of Prince
‘ *Eugene's* Army, advanced to support
‘ them. The *French* Cavalry, being thus
‘ vigorously attacked, fell soon into Dis-
‘ order, and were so much pressed, that
‘ they could not rally again: They en-
‘ deavoured to do it behind a Hedge;
‘ but the Duke of *Wirtemberg* caused im-
‘ mediately the Dragoons of *Wirtemberg*-
‘ *Ooels* to dismount, to attack the Enemy
‘ on Foot behind the Hedge aforesaid,
‘ from which they were driven, and they

' did not form again into any Order till
 ' they came behind a little Hill, at a
 ' pretty Distance from us, having behind
 ' them the little Town of *Bavay*, and a
 ' Morafs and a Defile before : And their
 ' Infantry, by Favour of the Hedges and
 ' Woods, made, for the moft part, their
 ' Retreat that Way, and formed them-
 ' selves again near their Cavalry. The
 ' Defile and Morafs aforefaid did not
 ' permit us to purfue them farther in a
 ' Body ; but two Regiments of Huffars,
 ' and fome Squadrons of Horfe and Dra-
 ' goons, were detach'd to annoy them as
 ' much as poffible in their Retreat. The
 ' Battle ended about Four in the After-
 ' noon'.

The Num-
 bers kill-
 ed and
 wounded.

In this Battle, according to the Ac-
 counts of the Allies, they had 5,547
 Men killed, and 12,806 wounded ; in
 all, upwards of 18,000 ; and, on the
French Side, there were, according to
 the Allies, about 15,000 killed and
 wounded : And it is very natural to be-
 lieve, that the Allies loft more Men than
 the Enemy, fince they were cut down
 from Morning till Noon, by the great and
 fmall Shot of the Enemy, before they
 became Mafters of their Intrenchments ;
 and, after fo hot an Action, it is no won-
 der they did not purfue the Enemy above
 three

three Miles from the Field of Battle. They took about forty or fifty of the Enemy's Cannon in the Intrenchments, fifty Colours and Standards, and some thousands of wounded Officers and Soldiers were made Prisoners. Prince *Eugene* received a slight Wound in the Head in this Engagement, which did not, however, hinder him from giving his Orders during the whole Action.

After the Victory of *Malplaquet* or *Blagnies*, the Allies marched towards *Mons*; and, having invested that City the 21st Instant, it surrendered the 20th of *October* following; which finished the Campaign in *Flanders*; and both Armies thereupon went into Winter-Quarters.

There was not any Thing done remarkable this Year on the *Rhine*, in *Savoy*, or in *Portugal*; and the most considerable Action in *Spain* was the Blowing-up of the Castle of *Alicant*. I proceed therefore to the Negotiations of Peace in the following Winter. The *French* King proposed again to the States, by Monsieur *Petticum*, the Renewing the Treaty, on the Foot of the Preliminaries before-mentioned; only he would not be obliged to compel his Grandson King *PHILIP* to quit the Throne of *Spain*. But the Allies still insisted on his yielding up the whole *Spanish* Monarchy, within the Space of two

Mons taken.

The *French* make further Overtures.

Which are
rejected.

Months. The *Dutch*, it seems, were now of Opinion, that all Overtures, short of this, ought to be rejected; and thereupon wrote a Letter to Her Majesty, to incite her to continue the War, and augment her Forces next Campaign; promising to do the like on their Part, and hoping her Majesty would press the rest of the Confederates to imitate them. They also desired Her Majesty, to send over the Duke of *Marlborough* betimes, if possible before the End of *February*; that they might have the Benefit of the wise Counsel of that great General, in concerting, in due Time, the Operations of the Campaign; and reap the Advantages of his incomparable Valour, in the Execution thereof.

The
Queen's
Letter to
the Diet of
the Em-
pire to in-
duce their
Principals
to exert
them-
selves.

Thus did the *Dutch* compliment our Favourite Minister, General, and Plenipotentiary: And the Queen was thereupon induced to write a Letter to the Diet of the Empire; wherein she desires them to observe the Enemy's obstinate and irreconcilable Spirit; and that nothing was further from his Thoughts than Peace, as appeared by the Artifices with which he endeavoured to amuse the Allies: That he raised Recruits, augmented his Forces, and erected great Magazines; from whence it appeared, that Peace was not to be obtained but by a Continuation of the War: That there was a Necessity therefore, that
the

the Allies should make their utmost Efforts, and have a greater Number of Troops than they had at present: That Her Majesty had not neglected, as often as the public Welfare seem'd to require it, to augment her Troops beyond her Quota, and to expend vast Sums of Money; and now, when they were like to reap the Fruits of their Victories, she was still ready to increase her Forces to the utmost of her Power, that the rest of the Allies might be incited, by the Example of *Great-Britain*, to augment their Troops beyond what had been hitherto done: Whereupon she repeated her Instances to that illustrious Council of the Empire, That they would exhort all the Electors, Princes, and States, to make great Efforts, that there might be a powerful Army on the *Upper Rhine*, not only to cover the Frontiers of the Empire, but to extend the same, that *France* might not be in a Condition to carry the whole Weight of the War into *Flanders*: Adding, That if every one would furnish his Quota of Troops in Time, the Confederate Forces would be so considerable and numerous, that there was no Reason to doubt, but with God's Blessing, they should pull down the Spirit of that proud Enemy, and force him at last to consent to the Peace (which he had hitherto haughtily rejected) upon
such

such Conditions as might for ever secure the Repose and Tranquillity of *Europe*.

At the Beginning of the next Year, however, the Negotiations were resumed. The vigorous Resolutions taken in *Great Britain* and *Holland*, for the Prosecution of the War, occasioned the Marquis de *Torcy* to send fresh Proposals from his most Christian Majesty, wherein the former Preliminaries were to be the Foundation of a new Treaty. Pursuant hereto, the States-General having granted Passes to the *French* Plenipotentiaries, the Marshal d'*Uxelles*, and the Abbot de *Poignac*, to come to *Gertruydenburg* in *Holland*; the *British* House of Peers addressed Her Majesty, on the 18th of *February*, to send the Duke of *Marlborough* over to *Holland*, to take Care of the Interests of *Great Britain*. Accordingly his Grace, having received Her Majesty's Command, set out for *Holland* the next Day, and arrived there the latter End of the Month.

The Negotiations
at *Gertruydenburg*.

The *French* Ministers were met at *Gertruydenburg* by Messieurs *Buys* and *Vanderdussen*, the Plenipotentiaries of the States, the Beginning of *March*, who, having heard what the *French* had to offer, returned to the *Hague*, and made their Report to the Duke of *Marlborough*, Count *Zinzendorf* the Emperor's Minister, and the rest of the Ministers of the Al-
lies

lies residing there. They said, That the *French* Ministers had endeavoured to persuade them, That it was the Interest of the Allies to make Peace with *France*, exclusive of *Spain*; and that the *French* King was willing to enter into the most solemn Engagements (*and give cautionary Towns for the Performance*) that he would not give any Assistance to his Grandson *Philip*.

The *Dutch* Ministers had several Conferences afterwards with the *French*, who proposed a Partition of the *Spanish* Territories; but came at length so low in their Demands, that they offered to accept of *Sicily* and *Sardinia*: And though their King could not in Honour and Conscience make War upon his Grandson, and drive him from the Throne on which he had placed him; yet, they said, his Majesty would persuade his Grandson to accept of that Partition; which if he refused to consent to, he would furnish a Sum of Money towards the Charges of the War, to be continued till the Surrender of *Spain* and the *West-Indies* to the House of *Austria*. But the *Dutch*, still insisting that *Spain* and the *Indies*, with all the Territories belonging to them, should be delivered up within the Space of two Months, according to the Preliminaries, the Conferences were broken off.

Sicily and *Sardinia* only demanded for King PHILIP.

The Conferences broken off.

Some Remarks on them.

‘ It is observable, says *Salmon**, that this Treaty was manag’d only by the *French* and *Dutch* Ministers; the rest of the Allies contenting themselves with the Report the *Dutch* were pleased to make of these Conferences. As for the Duke of *Marlborough*, he had left his Resolutions with the *English* and *Dutch* Ministers at the *Hague*, and was gone into the Field. He had now such an Ascendant over the *Dutch*, that he had no need to doubt their Fidelity to him: But, it is said, both the Emperor’s and the King of *Prussia*’s Ministers were for accepting the Terms offered by the *French*, if those of *Great Britain* and the States would have been prevailed on to acquiesce in them. But however that was, Marshal *d’Uxelles* and the Abbot *de Polignac* made heavy Complaints in a Letter to the Pensionary *Henfius*, that the *Dutch* Deputies had misrepresented these Conferences: To which the *Dutch* sent no Answer. But from the Relations of both Sides it appears, That the *French* King had agreed to acknowledge King CHARLES; and that he would not only not assist his Grandson, but would contribute a Sum of Money towards compelling him to quit the *Spanish* Throne, if he re-

* Modern History, Vol. XXVI. p. 93.

‘ refused to do it at his Instance ; and that
 ‘ he would deliver four strong Towns in
 ‘ the *Netherlands* to the Allies, as a Secu-
 ‘ rity for what he stipulated : And as to
 ‘ all the other Preliminary Articles, such
 ‘ as acknowledging the Queen ; the Bar-
 ‘ rier demanded for the Empire, *Holland*,
 ‘ the Duke of *Savoy*, &c. these he made
 ‘ no Scruple of granting. And, after this,
 ‘ will it not be difficult to assign a sub-
 ‘ stantial Reason for continuing this bloody
 ‘ War ?

‘ How long would *Spain* have been
 ‘ able to have resisted the United Arms
 ‘ of the Allies, without the Assistance of
 ‘ *France*, if it could be supposed that
 ‘ King PHILIP would have refused to
 ‘ comply with what his Grandfather had
 ‘ stipulated for him, and thereby hazarded
 ‘ losing even *Sicily* and *Sardinia*, as well
 ‘ as his other Dominions ? The Towns
 ‘ that were agreed to be delivered up to
 ‘ the Emperor and the *Dutch*, would have
 ‘ required some Years to conquer : And
 ‘ had the *French* been never so insincere,
 ‘ as was pretended, the Allies would have
 ‘ gained such an Addition of Strength by
 ‘ them, as would have rendered *France*
 ‘ much less formidable than it was then.
 ‘ Let it be considered farther, had it been
 ‘ our own Case, and the Fortune of the
 ‘ War had reduced us to the Necessity of
 ‘ aban-

‘ abandoning King CHARLES, and the
 ‘ *French* King had insisted, that the Al-
 ‘ lies should not only not assist him, but
 ‘ turn their Arms against the Prince they
 ‘ had set up; would it not have been
 ‘ thought a most extravagant Demand?
 ‘ And if it would, was it not much more
 ‘ unreasonable to desire the *French* King
 ‘ to enter into a War with King PHILIP,
 ‘ to whom he was so nearly allied by the
 ‘ Ties of Blood, as well as other Engage-
 ‘ ments?

‘ We had, indeed, so long talked of
 ‘ the boundless Ambition and exorbitant
 ‘ Power of *France*, that we affected to
 ‘ have a Dread of it, even after that King-
 ‘ dom was reduced so low, that our Ge-
 ‘ nerals gave out, they could not make
 ‘ Head against us another Year.

‘ Every Proposal, that was said to come
 ‘ from *France*, was still condemned as un-
 ‘ reasonable, before it was examined; and,
 ‘ if the Reasonableness of it was so con-
 ‘ spicuous, that it could not be denied,
 ‘ then were we taught to exclaim against
 ‘ their Insincerity.

‘ In short, some of the Powers, en-
 ‘ gaged in the Grand Alliance, were such
 ‘ Gainers by the War, the whole Charge
 ‘ whereof was borne by their Neighbours,
 ‘ whose Ministers were in their Interest,
 ‘ that any Peace whatever must have been

‘ to

‘ to their Disadvantage; and therefore it
 ‘ is not to be thought strange, if they
 ‘ talk’d loudly of the Enemy’s Insincerity,
 ‘ and rejected all their Proposals. The
 ‘ daily Acquisition of new Dominions, at
 ‘ the Expence of others, possibly, put
 ‘ such a Bias on their Judgments, that
 ‘ they might, in some measure, believe
 ‘ what they affirmed. We have seen whole
 ‘ Nations submit their Understandings,
 ‘ and even resign their paternal Estates, to
 ‘ grasp a Shadow: The very Appearance
 ‘ of Gain has distracted the Wisest; and
 ‘ it is no wonder, if real Acquisitions have
 ‘ had the same Effect on others.’

I shall be very brief in my Account of Campaign
 the following Campaigns, till the Conclusion of a general Peace. In 1710 the
 Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene*
 took the Field, while the Conferences
 were carrying on at *Gertruydenburgh*. They
 reduced this Year, at a great Expence of
 Men and Treasure, the Towns of *Douay*,
Aire, *Bethune*, and *St. Venant*; the two
 first of which are Places of Note. The
 Army on the *Rhine* did nothing but cover
 the Frontiers; and the Elector of *Hano-*
ver, who commanded it, finding there
 was no Honour to be gained, resigned
 his Commission. The Duke of *Savoy*
 was also quiet on the Side of *Dauphiné*:

So

So that the principal Seat of Action this Year, was *Spain*. Here King CHARLES, being re-inforced from *Italy*, attacked his Rival near *Almanara*, and routed his Cavalry; but it being late when the Engagement began, the Foot retired by the Favour of the Night. Soon after he obtained a complete Victory near *Saragossa*, which immediately opened her Gates to the Victor, who the next Month entered *Madrid* in Triumph. But the latter End of the Year was unfortunate to the *English* Forces, under General Stanhope, who were surprized near *Brihuega* by King PHILIP's Army, and made Prisoners with their General. Count *Staremburg* indeed, who commanded the rest of the Allies, was the very next Day revenged on the *Spaniards*, by giving them a Defeat at *Villa Viciosa*. But tho' he got a great deal of Honour in the Action, he was unable to prosecute the Victory to Advantage. In a Word, King CHARLES was obliged to abandon *Madrid*, and the Year was rather unsuccessful to him than otherwise.

Of 1711

and 1712.

In the Year 1711, the Duke of *Marlborough*'s last Campaign, the only Action in *Flanders* was his Entering the *French* Lines, and taking the Town of *Bouchain*, which was retaken the next Year. Nothing was done on the *Rhine*, or in *Catalonia*. Sir *Hovenden Walker*'s Enterprize

prize on *Canada* came to nought. And in 1712, when the Duke of *Ormond* commanded, Negotiations of Peace were openly carrying on, and he was absolutely forbid to act offensively against the *French*. This leads us to the Consideration of the Steps that had been previously taken on both Sides, in order to an Accommodation; which have hitherto been greatly misrepresented.

Mr. *Harley* and Mr. *St. John*, long before they were advanced to the Head of the Ministry, had entertained Thoughts of putting an End to the War, and thereby recommending themselves to the Queen and the Nation. They had privately treated with some Agents of *France*, particularly Mr. *St. John* with the *Sieur Gualtier*, a *French* Priest, who for some Time was protected by Count *Gallas*, and afterwards employed by Count *Tallard*, then a Prisoner at *Nottingham*, to forward Letters between him and his Court. But in 1710, when these Gentlemen were brought into full Play, a Paper called *The Examiner* was immediately set up under their Influence, and conducted by Mr. PRIOR, Dr. *Swift*, Dr. *Freind*, Mrs. *Manley*, Mr. *Oldsworth*, and some others; the Design of which was to aggravate the Faults of the late Ministry, to represent them as Enemies to the Church

Steps taken by the Ministry.

and Constitution, Men who delighted in War, and to recommend an immediate Pacification, which indeed at that Time began to be much wished for. All the Wit, Raillery, and even Invective that these great Men were Masters of, was employed on this Occasion: And it had in general the desired Effect, so far as to secure the public Voice in their Favour. It must be confessed, that by artfully blending together the Words *Church, Queen, Loyalty, Peace*, on the one Side, and *Whig, Junto, Republican, Faction*, on the other, they had the Address to carry every thing before them, and to involve all the Friends of the late Ministry in their Accusation. We have already taken notice what was the Substance of this Charge, especially with regard to the Prolongation of the War; and the Reader may see more of it in the following Letter to the *Examiner*, which is prefixed to the Collection of those Papers, and writ by Mr. *St. John*, afterwards Lord *Bolingbroke*.

S I R,

Mr. *St. John's*
Letter to
the *Exa-*
miner.

‘ **W**HEN I read the Introduction
‘ to your Paper, it was great Sa-
‘ tisfaction for me to find, that Somebody
‘ had undertaken to furnish Mankind with
‘ a Weekly Antidote to that Weekly Poi-
‘ son,

son, which by the President and inferior Members of a Factious Cabal, is so profusely scattered thro' the Nation.

' You have sufficiently exposed the * Letter which you chose to begin your Examinations with. How little of that Probability, which ought to be carried through the whole Thread of a well-invented Fable, appears in it! How little Regard is paid to that Justness and Propriety of Character, without which Compositions of this Kind are as monstrous, as that Government must be, where Submission is made the Duty of the Prince, and Dominion the Prerogative of the Subject?

' But such is the singular Modesty of that Faction, which the Ministers of the Crown have, with so much Advantage to themselves, nurs'd up, in Opposition to the Crown; that you must expect to have the same Arguments still pursued. The *Observer*, the *Review*, the † *Censor* of *Great Britain*, who resembles the famous Censor of *Rome* in nothing, but espousing the Cause of the Vanquished, with the Croud of Hireling Scribblers, will hope, by a few false Colours, and a great many impudent Assertions, at last to persuade the People,

* Mr. Petticum's Letter. See the *Examiner*.

† The *Tatler*.

‘ that the General, the *quondam* Treasure,
 ‘ and the Junto, are the only Objects of
 ‘ the Confidence of the Allies, and of the
 ‘ Fears of the Enemies: For the Queen,
 ‘ and the whole Body of the *British* Na-
 ‘ tion — *Nos numerus sumus*.

‘ Surely therefore, the Argument which
 ‘ you have undertaken, should be carried
 ‘ further. Allow that the *French* have
 ‘ recovered Heart, that they rise in their
 ‘ Demands, that the Conferences at *Ger-
 ‘ truydenburgh* were broke off by them,
 ‘ whilst our Plenipotentiaries did all that
 ‘ possibly could be done to obtain a safe
 ‘ and honourable Peace: Allow, I say, all
 ‘ this; not because it is true, for the con-
 ‘ trary shall one Time or other be made
 ‘ out to the World, when the true State
 ‘ of our present Condition will be set in
 ‘ a clearer Light; yet that Odium which
 ‘ the Ministers and their Faction endea-
 ‘ vour to throw on the Queen, and on
 ‘ those who have appeared at Her Call, and
 ‘ in Her Defence, will with more Justice
 ‘ be laid at their own Door.

‘ Paint, Sir, with that Force which
 ‘ you are Master of, the present State of
 ‘ the War abroad, and expose to public
 ‘ View those Principles, upon which, of
 ‘ late, it has been carried on, so different
 ‘ from those, upon which it was originally
 ‘ entered into. Collect some few of the
 ‘ Indignities

‘ Indignities which have been this Year
‘ offered to Her Majesty, and of those
‘ unnatural Struggles, which have betray’d
‘ the Weakness of a shatter’d Constitution: And when this is done, *D——*
‘ shall blush in his Grave among the Dead,
‘ *W——le* among the Living, and even
‘ *Vol——ne* shall feel some Remorse.

‘ Forgive me, Sir, if in that Warmth
‘ which these Reflections occasion, I anticipate in some Measure the Subject,
‘ and encroach on the Province which
‘ belongs to you.

‘ To restore the *Spanish* Monarchy to
‘ the House of *Austria*, who by their
‘ own Supineness, and the Perfidy of the
‘ *French*, had lost it; and to regain a Barrier for *Holland*, which lay naked and
‘ open to the Insults of *France*; were the
‘ wise and generous Motives, which engaged *Britain* in the present War. We
‘ engaged as Confederates, but we have
‘ been made to proceed as Principals:
‘ Principals in Expence of Blood and Treasure, whilst hardly a second Place in Respect and Dignity is allowed to us.

‘ In the Year 1706, the last of these
‘ two Motives was effectually answered by
‘ the Reduction of the *Netherlands*; or
‘ might have been so, by the Concessions,
‘ which it is notorious that the Enemy
‘ offered. But the first Motive remained

‘ still in its full Force; and we were told,
 ‘ that though the Barrier of *Holland* was
 ‘ secured, the Trade of *Britain*, and the
 ‘ Ballance of Power in *Europe*, would be
 ‘ still precarious. *Spain* therefore was to
 ‘ be conquered, before we laid down our
 ‘ Arms, and we were made to expect,
 ‘ that the whole Attention of our Minis-
 ‘ ters would be applied to that Part of the
 ‘ War. Like Men of resigned Under-
 ‘ standings, we acquiesced, and flattered
 ‘ ourselves, That since *Holland* had been
 ‘ secured in the first Place, *Britain* would
 ‘ be taken care of in the second. But
 ‘ alas! these Expectations, like many
 ‘ others, have failed us.

‘ From that Point of Time to this
 ‘ Hour, *France* has continued like a great
 ‘ Town, invested indeed on every Part, but
 ‘ attacked only in one. In *Spain*, in *Savoy*,
 ‘ on the *Rhine*, enough, and but just
 ‘ enough has been done, to serve as a Pre-
 ‘ tence for Estimates, and Demands of
 ‘ Supplies: But nothing decisive, nothing
 ‘ which had the Appearance of Earnest,
 ‘ has been so much as attempted, except
 ‘ that wise Expedition to *Toulon*, which
 ‘ we suffered to be defeated, before it
 ‘ began. The whole Stress of the War
 ‘ has been wantonly laid, where *France*
 ‘ is best able to keep us at Bay; as if we
 ‘ fought only to make Ostentation of our
 ‘ Valour,

‘ Valour, and of our Riches. Towns
 ‘ have been taken, and Battles have been
 ‘ won; the Mob has huzza’d round Bon-
 ‘ fires; the *Stentor* of the Chapel has
 ‘ strained his Throat in the Gallery, and
 ‘ the *Stentor* of *Sarum* has deaffened his
 ‘ Audience from the Pulpit. In the mean
 ‘ while, the *French* King has withdrawn
 ‘ Troops from *Spain*, and has put it out
 ‘ of his Power to restore that Monarchy
 ‘ to us, was he reduced low enough really
 ‘ to desire to do it. The Duke of *Anjou* has
 ‘ had Leisure to take off those whom he
 ‘ suspected, to confirm his Friends, to re-
 ‘ gulate his Revenues, to increase and
 ‘ form his Troops, and above all, to
 ‘ rouse that Spirit in the *Spanish* Nation,
 ‘ which a Succession of lazy and indolent
 ‘ Princes had lulled asleep.

‘ From hence it appears probable
 ‘ enough, that if the War continue much
 ‘ longer on the present Foot; instead of
 ‘ regaining *Spain*, we shall find the Duke
 ‘ of *Anjou* in a Condition to pay the Debt
 ‘ of Gratitude, and support the Grand-
 ‘ father in his declining Years, by whose
 ‘ Arms, in the Days of his Infancy, he
 ‘ was upheld. The *Dutch* will have a
 ‘ larger and a better Country than their
 ‘ own, at the Expence of *Britain*, con-
 ‘ quered for them, by those Ministers,
 ‘ who once thought it impolitic to con-

‘ sent, that even *Ostend* should be made
 ‘ a Part of their Barrier. The Emperor
 ‘ has already *Bavaria*, the Dutchy of
 ‘ *Mantua*, the State of *Milan*; and the
 ‘ Kingdom of *Naples*, *Sicily*, and some
 ‘ other Places dependent on these, may
 ‘ be added to his Portion; and by the lit-
 ‘ tle Care he now takes to support King
 ‘ CHARLES, we may easily judge how
 ‘ great his Concern will be, if that Prince
 ‘ should be deprived of all the rest.

‘ *Britain* may expect to remain exhaus-
 ‘ ted of Men and Money, to see her Trade
 ‘ divided amongst her Neighbours, her Re-
 ‘ venues anticipated even to future Gene-
 ‘ rations, and to have this only Glory left
 ‘ Her, that she has proved a Farm to the
 ‘ Bank, a Province to *Holland*, and a Jest
 ‘ to the whole World.

‘ If the Facts I have mentioned are
 ‘ true, and the Consequences I have
 ‘ drawn from them, are naturally deduci-
 ‘ ble from such Causes, may not the King
 ‘ of *France* reasonably hope, tho’ *Holland*
 ‘ should be aggrandized, that *Britain* will
 ‘ be in proportion weakened? May he not
 ‘ hope, in exchange for a few Towns,
 ‘ which he either bought or stole in
 ‘ former Wars, to secure the *Spanish* Mo-
 ‘ narchy to the House of *Bourbon* for ever,
 ‘ by happily concluding this?

‘ Let

‘ Let us now survey the present State of
‘ our domestic Affairs, and examine whe-
‘ ther from the Conduct of the Ministry,
‘ and of the factious Whigs, the *French*
‘ King has not good Grounds to expect to
‘ see us in Confusion, and by Consequence
‘ the great Band of the Confederacy dis-
‘ solved,

‘ Domestic Occurrences, the more they
‘ are examined, the greater Weight will
‘ they add to the same Argument.

‘ You have, in your second Paper,
‘ pointed out some few of those innume-
‘ rable Obligations, which the Whigs
‘ have laid on the *French* King. When-
‘ ever you think fit to go to the Bottom
‘ of the Subject, I make no doubt but it
‘ will evidently appear, that LEWIS XIV.
‘ has Reason enough to hope for Success
‘ from the Measures taken by the Minis-
‘ ters, and their Faction at home; as I
‘ have already shewn, that he has from
‘ the Conduct of the War abroad.

‘ Notwithstanding all the Pains which
‘ have been taken to lessen Her Character
‘ in the World, by the Wits of the *Kit-*
‘ *Kat*, and the Sages of the Cellar; Man-
‘ kind remains convinced, that a Queen
‘ possessed of all the Virtues requisite to
‘ bless a Nation, or to make a private Fa-
‘ mily happy, sits on the Throne.

‘ By

‘ By an Excess of Goodness she delighted to raise some of Her Servants to the highest Degree of Riches, of Power, and of Honour; and in this only Instance can be said to have grieved any of Her Subjects.

‘ The Rule which she had prescribed to these Persons, as the Measure of their Conduct, was soon departed from. But so unable were they to associate with Men of honest Principles than themselves, that the Sovereign Authority was parcelled out among a Faction, and made the Purchase of Indemnity for an offending Minister. Instead of the mild Influences of a gracious Queen governing by Law; we soon felt the miserable Consequences of Subjection to the Will of an arbitrary Junto, and to the Caprice of an insolent Woman.

‘ Unhappy Nation, which expecting to be governed by the Best, fell under the Tyranny of the Worst of her Sex! But now, Thanks be to God, that Fury, who broke loose to execute the Vengeance of Heaven on a sinful People, is restrain’d, and the Royal Hand is already reached out to chain up the Plague.

Invisum numen terras cælumque levabit.

‘ One

‘ One would expect, that on the first Appearance of the Queen’s Displeasure, these little Tyrants should have had Recourse to Submission, and to Resignation. But they believed the whole Nation as debauched and corrupted, as those profligate Wretches, who were in their Confidence ; they imagined, that under the Name of their Prince, they should be able to govern against her declared Intention ; and having usurped the Royal Seat, resolved to venture overturning the Chariot of Government, rather than to lose their Place in it. They set their Mistress at open Defiance, neither the Ties of Gratitude, nor the Bands of Allegiance, were any Restraint to them.

‘ Their first Attempt was to take that Privilege from Her, which the Meanest of Her Subjects enjoy, and Slavery was to pursue Her even into Her Bed-chamber.

‘ Here the Nation in general took the Alarm ; a Spirit of Loyalty began to rise, which the Faction foresaw would no longer bear to have the meanest Submission shewn to the Ministers, whilst common Decency was hardly used towards the Throne. The Conspirators resolved therefore to precipitate their Measures, and a Sermon was made the Pretence of their Clamour. Those who prove themselves Friends to this Govern-
ment

' verment by avowing Principles incon-
 ' sistent with any, presumed daily to try
 ' the Title of the Queen, and to limit the
 ' Allegiance of the Subject. The Party-
 ' Agents of every Rank were employed to
 ' declaim in public Places, and we had the
 ' Mortification to see Cabals of Upstarts,
 ' sit in Judgment on the Right and Au-
 ' thority of the Crown, who, had it not
 ' been for the Profusion of Royal Favour,
 ' could have had no Pretence to be com-
 ' mon Triers in any Cause.

' By long insipid Harangues and fulsome
 ' Panegyric, the Merits of the Ministers
 ' were exalted : The whole Success of the
 ' Administration, both at Home and A-
 ' broad, was singly attributed to them ;
 ' and lest the Queen should think fit to
 ' declare them dangerous, she was by ne-
 ' cessary Consequence from the Positions
 ' laid down, declared Herself to be use-
 ' less.

' This Attempt had likewise an Effect,
 ' contrary to what the Projectors of it ex-
 ' pected. The Ferment, instead of abat-
 ' ing, increased ; the Bulk of the Nobility,
 ' Gentry, Clergy, and Commonalty of
 ' *Britain* declared themselves loudly in the
 ' Cause of their Prince ; and those Dis-
 ' orders which the Faction had raised for
 ' their

‘ their Security, threatened their Destruction.

‘ Not daunted yet, they resolve to try
‘ a new Expedient ; and the Interest of
‘ Europe is to be represented as inseparable
‘ from that of the Ministers.

— *Haud dubitant equidem implorare
quod usquam est ;*

*Flectere si nequeunt superos, Acheronta
movebunt.*

‘ The Members of the Bank, the *Dutch*,
‘ and the Court of *Vienna*, are called in
‘ as Confederates to the Ministry ; and such
‘ an Indignity is offered to the Crown, as
‘ no Man, who has the Honour of his
‘ Country at Heart, can with Patience
‘ hear.

‘ What a Weakness in our Constitution,
‘ what a Sickness at Heart do these Symp-
‘ toms, which appear too openly, dis-
‘ cover ?

‘ These are Signs which shew a Go-
‘ vernment to be near its Dissolution :
‘ These are Things which justly give En-
‘ couragement to an Enemy. And if you
‘ would go to the Root of our Distemper,
‘ these are the Topics you must insist upon,
‘ as the real Causes which have prolonged
‘ the War, distracted the Nation, and
‘ given

‘ given *France* Spirit enough at last to
 ‘ break off the Peace.

‘ And these are the Things, Sir, that
 ‘ deserve to pass under your Pen, that the
 ‘ Nation may be truly informed from what
 ‘ Springs our own Grievances, and the
 ‘ Hopes of our Enemies, have risen’.

Mr. PRIOR is supposed to have been the Author of many of the best *Examiners*, which are not particularly distinguished: But the following Criticism upon a Poem of Dr. Garth's to the Earl of Godolphin, is universally allowed to be his; as the Answer which follows, taken from the *Whig Examiner*, is well known to be Mr. Addison's, who sided with the Party in Disgrace.

E X A M I N E R.

N^o 6. *Thursday Sept. 7. 1710.*

Mr. PRIOR's Criticism
 of Dr. Garth's
 Verses to
 Lord Godolphin.

THE Collective Body of the Whigs have already engrossed our Riches; and their Representatives, the *Kitt-Cat*, have pretended to make a Monopoly of our Sense. Thus it happens, that Mr. P——r, by being expelled the Club, ceases to be a Poet; and Sir Harry F——e becomes one, by being admitted into it. 'Tis here that Wit
 ‘ and

and Beauty are decided by Plurality of
Voices: The Child's Judgment shall
make *H*—y pass for a Fool; and *Ja-*
cob's Indulgence shall preserve Lady *H---*
from the Tallow-Candle.

It is the Misfortune of our *Athens*, like
that of antient *Greece*, to be governed by
a Set Number of Tyrants: The Works
of learned Men are weighed here by the
unerring Ballance of Party, and he is
sure to be most ingenious in his Writ-
ings, who is, in their Phrase, most tho-
rough-paced in his Politics. *Treelooby*
kept the general Applause for a whole
Winter; while poor *Phædra* could scarce
get into the Theatre, 'till she had thrown
herself at the Feet of one of these *Re-*
guli. It was in this Mint that a curious
Piece of poetical Workmanship was
lately wrought, and, by the Masters of
the Company, allowed as current and
authentic Coin. Notwithstanding which
Stamp of Authority, a Critic, unknown
to me, has presumed to make some Ob-
servations upon this Performance; both
which, I hope Dr. *Bentley* will excuse
me for publishing, since this is such
Poetry as he has never found among the
Greek or *Latin* Writers.

To the Earl of GODOLPHIN.

WHILST weeping *Europe* bends beneath
 her Ills,
 And where the Sword destroys not,
 Famine kills;
 Our Isle enjoys, by your successful Care,
 The Pomp of Peace amidst the Woes of War.
 So much the Public to your Prudence owes,
 You think no Labours long for our Repose:
 Such Conduct, such Integrity are shown,
 There are no Coffers empty but your own.
 From mean Dependance Merit you receive;
 Unask'd you offer, and unseen you give.
 Your Favour, like the *Nile*, Increase bestows,
 And yet conceals the Source from whence it flows;
 So pois'd your Passions are, we find no Frown,
 If Funds oppress not, and if Commerce run.
 Taxes diminish'd, Liberty entire,
 Those are the Grants your Services require.
 Thus far the State-Machine wants no Repair,
 But moves in matchless Order by your Care:
 Free from Confusion, settled and serene,
 And, like the Universe, by Springs unseen.
 But now some Star, sinister to our Prayers,
 Contrives new Schemes, and calls you from Affairs.
 No Anguish in your Looks, nor Cares appear,
 But how to teach the unpractis'd Crew to Steer.
 Thus, like some Victim, no Constraint you need,
 To expiate their Offence, by whom you bleed.

Ingra-

Ingratitude's a Weed in every Clime,
It thrives too fast at first, but fades in Time.
The God of Day, and your own Lot's the same,
The Vapours you have rais'd, obscure your Flame.
But though you suffer, and a while retreat,
Your Globe of Light looks larger as you set.

A Letter to the EXAMINER.

‘ I SEND you these Verses enclosed,
‘ which I have read with great Attention;
‘ and from the Character of the Patron,
‘ as well as of the Poet, with no
‘ ordinary Inclination to be pleased. But
‘ so dull am I, that there does not appear,
‘ to my Apprehension, either Poetry,
‘ Grammar, or Design in the Composition.
‘ The whole seems to be, as the
‘ sixth Editor of the *Dispensary* happily
‘ expresses it,

A strong unlabour'd Impotence of Thought!

‘ If we examine it by the new Test of
‘ good Poetry, which the Doctor himself
‘ has established, Pleasing at first Blush,
‘ has this Piece the least Title even to that?
‘ Or, if we compare it with the only
‘ Pattern, as he thinks, of just Writing
‘ of this Kind, *Ovid*, is there any Thing
‘ Y in

‘ in *De Tristibus* so wild, so childish, or
 ‘ so flat?

‘ What can the ingenious Doctor mean?
 ‘ Or at what Time could he write these
 ‘ Verses? Half of the Poem is a Panegy-
 ‘ ric on a Lord-Treasurer in being; and
 ‘ the rest a Compliment of Condolence
 ‘ to an Earl that has lost the Staff.

‘ In thirty Lines his Patron is a River,
 ‘ the *Primum Mobile*, a Pilot, a Victim,
 ‘ the Sun, any Thing and Nothing. He
 ‘ bestows Increase, conceals his Source,
 ‘ makes the Machine move, teaches to
 ‘ steer, expiates our Offences, raises Va-
 ‘ pours, and look larger as he sets.

‘ Nor is the Choice of his Expressions
 ‘ less exquisite, than that of his Similes.
 ‘ For Commerce to run, Passions to be
 ‘ poised, Merit to be * retrieved from
 ‘ Dependance, and a Machine to be Se-
 ‘ rene, is perfectly new. The Doctor has
 ‘ a happy Talent at Invention, and has
 ‘ had the Glory of enriching our Lan-
 ‘ guage by his Phrases, as much as he has
 ‘ improved Medicine by his Bills.

‘ But to be more particular——

*And where the Sword destroys not (says
 our Panegyrist) Famine kills.*

‘ I could wish the Verse would have al-

* It is by Mistake printed *receive*, p. 320. l. 12.

‘ lowed of the Word *Plague*, or *Pestilence*; for I suppose that’s what the Author means. I have heard of the *Plague* at *Dantzick*; but what Part of *Europe* *Famine* rages in, I know not. Why won’t *Physic* stand here? It is better Sense, and runs as well. What the *Pomp of Peace* is, I as little comprehend, as how it can be enjoyed amidst the *Woes of War*.

*Such Conduct, such Integrity are shown,
There are no Coffers empty but your own.*

‘ Since there is so little Poetry in this Couplet, I wish there were more Truth in it. Some Coffers, I have heard, were empty three Weeks ago; and if they are not so still, the Nation is more obliged to the Doctor’s unpractised Crew, than to the experienced Pilot.

Unask’d you offer——

‘ A great Discovery! I always thought till now, he that was ask’d might be said to give; but not properly to offer. The malicious Part of the World will, I doubt, be apt to observe, That this Sentence, as it stands here, is as true in Fact, as it is exact in Language,

Your Favour, like the Nile, Increase bestows.

‘ If the Beauty of the Simile is to be
 ‘ judged of by the frequent Use which the
 ‘ Poets of all Ages have made of it, scarce
 ‘ any can come in Competition with the
 ‘ Doctor’s River. The *Nile* on these Oc-
 ‘ casions is as trite, as the Stories of *Ica-*
 ‘ *rus* and *Phaeton*. I remember I used it
 ‘ when I was about Twelve, in a *New-*
 ‘ *Year’s-Gift* to my Uncle, and was heart-
 ‘ ily ashamed of it a Year after. A School-
 ‘ Boy can no more miss the *Nile*, than a
 ‘ *French* Author, when he dedicates to the
 ‘ Grand Monarch, can live without the
 ‘ Sun, that other Simile in which the
 ‘ Doctor rejoices.

—— *Some Stars, sinister to our Prayers,
 Contrive new Schemes.*

‘ *Alii legunt Five Stars* ; which makes this
 ‘ Passage intelligible. I have often heard
 ‘ Astrologers talk of a sort of Influence
 ‘ that Stars have upon human Affairs ;
 ‘ but I know of no Stars, but those in
 ‘ Mr. *Bickerstaff*’s Constellation, that ever
 ‘ contrived Schemes ; and these too were
 ‘ erected under no very benign Aspect.

‘ My Lord’s Care, he tells us, is to teach
 ‘ the unpractised Crew to steer. By Crew,
 ‘ we

' we are to understand the Lords of the
' Treasury. A very civil Expression! But
' as to the Sense of it: What Affinity is
' there between Crew and Steering? Is
' Steering the Business of the whole Ship's
' Crew? This is a true Image of the
' *Whig-Scheme*, where every Man is his
' own Pilot.

' If we read the two next Lines, we
' shall find these People have wounded
' him; and yet, like the best-natur'd Vic-
' tim imaginable, he needs no Constraint
' to expiate their Offence. All this is
' what the *French* call *Gallimatias*, and
' what the *English* Critics term *Nonsense*.
' But what follows? *For whom you bleed*.
' Bleed! What, is the Devil in the Doc-
' tor, to mention such a Word, and give
' so unlucky a Hint? I hoped that this
' Point had been so well guarded, that
' there could be no farther need of an Act
' of Security.

*The God of Day, and your own Lot's
the same.*

' A hundred Pound for a *Genitive Case*! as
' old *Busby* used to cry out upon such an
' Occasion.

' But to go on, from *Grammar* to De-
' cency. Of this Happiness of *Great Bri-*
' *tain*, is any Part ascribed to the Queen?

‘ To this Machine, which moves so like
 ‘ the Universe, does the Royal Hand give
 ‘ any Turn? Methinks he might at least
 ‘ allow Her Majesty as much as his Friends
 ‘ did in the Coronation-Medal.

VICEM GERIT ILLA.

‘ But, as the Poet observes,

Ingratitude’s a Weed in every Clime.

‘ He will give me leave, in my own
 ‘ Turn, to observe, That in *Don Sebastian*
 ‘ it is,

Ingratitude’s the Growth of every Clime.

‘ What Occasion was there of altering a
 ‘ Verse he thought fit to steal? This is
 ‘ being a meer *Banditti* in Poetry, to rob
 ‘ and murder too. But who is to be
 ‘ charged with this Ingratitude? The whole
 ‘ Body of the Nation did indeed wish the
 ‘ Treasurer out; but ’twas Her Majesty only
 ‘ that could displace him. Such are the
 ‘ Compliments which the Crown receives
 ‘ from this Anti-monarchical Academy.
 ‘ Excellent Poets, dutiful Subjects!

‘ I could give you many more Obser-
 ‘ vations upon the Beauties of this sublime
 ‘ Panegyric, if I had my *Longinus* by me.
 ‘ It

‘ It has been corrected, I find, twice or
‘ thrice already ; and if the Author cor-
‘ rects it once more, I am so well acquaint-
‘ ed with his lucky Performances that
‘ Way, that I don’t doubt, but I shall be
‘ tempted to write to you again upon the
‘ same Subject. He will not be like
‘ himself, if he does not shift his Patron
‘ as well as his Phrases; and it won’t sur-
‘ prize me at all, if in the next Edition
‘ the Poem should come out inscribed to
‘ the late Treasurer of *Ireland*.

‘ But I believe by this Time the Town
‘ is tired with the Verses, and you with
‘ the Criticisms of

Your most humble Servant,

PHILODINGLE.

‘ My unknown Friend Mr. *Philodingle*
‘ has taken my Province from me: How-
‘ ever, I am obliged to him for his Essay.
‘ The best Return which can be made to
‘ an ingenious Man, is to afford him fresh
‘ Matter to employ his Thoughts, and
‘ more Opportunities of shewing his Saga-
‘ city. For this Reason I present my Bro-
‘ ther *Examiner* with a *Riddle*, which was
‘ sent me by a Sage, studious of *Egyptian*
‘ Knowledge, and much addicted to the
‘ Hieroglyphics.

The RIDDLE.

SPHINX was a Monster, that would eat
 Whatever Stranger she could get;
 Unless his ready Wit disclos'd
 The subtle Riddle she propos'd.

OEdipus was resolv'd to go,
 And try what Strength of Parts cou'd do.
 Says *Sphinx*, On this depends your Fate;
 Tell me what Animal is that,
 Which has four Feet at Morning bright;
 Has two at Noon, and three at Night?
 'Tis Man, said he, who weak by Nature,
 At first creeps like his Fellow-Creature,
 Upon all four: As Years accrue,
 With sturdy Steps he walks on two:
 In Age, at length, grown weak and sick,
 For his third Leg adopts his Stick.

Now in your Turn, 'tis just, methinks,
 You should resolve me, Madam *Sphinx*,
 What stranger Creature yet is he,
 Who has four Legs, then two, then three;
 Then loses one, then gets two more;
 And runs away, at last, on four?

It seems as if Mr. *Addison* had begun
 his Paper chiefly to pay his Regard to Mr.
 PRIOR's Remarks and Riddle; the first
 Number of it, which we here insert, be-
 ing dated only a Week after them. I shall
 not

not interfere in the Dispute between these Gentlemen, farther than to deal impartially with both Sides, and leave the Comparison of their two Pieces to the Reader's Judgment.

The WHIG-EXAMINER.

N^o I. *Thursday September 14. 1710.*

THE Design of this Work is to censure the Writings of others, and to give all Persons a Re-hearing, who have suffered under any unjust Sentence of the *Examiner*. As that Author has hitherto proceeded, his Paper would have been more properly entitled the *Executioner*: At least, his Examination is like that which is made by the Rack and Wheel. I have always admired a Critic that has discovered the Beauties of an Author, and never knew one who made it his Business to lash the Faults of other Writers, that was not guilty of greater himself; as the Hangman is generally a worse Malefactor than the Criminal that suffers by his Hand. To prove what I say, there needs no more than to read the Annotations which this Author has made upon Dr. Garth's Poem, with the Preface in the Front, and a Riddle at the End

Mr. Addison's Answer.
of

‘ of them. To begin with the first: Did
 ‘ ever an Advocate for a Party open with
 ‘ such an unfortunate Assertion? *The Col-*
 ‘ *lective Body of the Whigs have already*
 ‘ *engrossed our Riches:* That is, in plain
 ‘ *English*, the Whigs are possess’d of all
 ‘ the Riches in the Nation. Is not this
 ‘ giving up all he has been contending for
 ‘ these six Weeks? Is there any thing more
 ‘ reasonable, than that those who have all
 ‘ the Riches of the Nation in their Pos-
 ‘ session; or, if he likes his own Phrase
 ‘ better, as indeed I think it is stronger,
 ‘ that those who have already engrossed our
 ‘ Riches, should have the Management of
 ‘ our Public Treasures, and the Direction
 ‘ of our Fleets and Armies? But let us
 ‘ proceed: *Their Representative the Kit-*
 ‘ *Cat have pretended to make a Monopoly of*
 ‘ *our Sense.* Well, but what does all this
 ‘ end in? If the Author means any thing,
 ‘ it is this: That to prevent such a Mono-
 ‘ poly of Sense, he is resolved to deal in it
 ‘ himself by Retail, and sell a Pennyworth
 ‘ of it every Week. In what follows,
 ‘ there is such a shocking Familiarity both
 ‘ in his Railleries and Civilities, that one
 ‘ cannot long be in doubt who is the Au-
 ‘ thor. The remaining Part of the Pre-
 ‘ face has so much of the Pedant, and so
 ‘ little of the Conversation of Men in it,
 ‘ that I shall pass it over, and hasten to the
 ‘ Riddles.

‘ The

‘ The first Part of this little mystical
 ‘ Poem is an old Riddle, which we could
 ‘ have told the Meaning of, had not the
 ‘ Author given himself the Trouble of
 ‘ explaining it; but as for the Exposition
 ‘ of the second, he leaves us altogether in
 ‘ the Dark. The Riddle runs thus: *What*
 ‘ *Creature is it that walks upon four Legs*
 ‘ *in the Morning, two Legs at Noon, and*
 ‘ *three Legs at Night?* This he solves, as
 ‘ our Forefathers have done for these two
 ‘ thousand Years; and not according to
 ‘ *Rabelais*, who gives another Reason why
 ‘ a Man is said to be a Creature with three
 ‘ Legs at Night. Then follows the se-
 ‘ cond Riddle: *What Creature*, says he,
 ‘ *is it that first uses four Legs, then two*
 ‘ *Legs, then three Legs; then loses one*
 ‘ *Leg, then gets two Legs, and at last runs*
 ‘ *away upon four Legs?* Were I disposed
 ‘ to be splenetic, I should ask if there was
 ‘ any thing in the new Garland of Riddles
 ‘ so wild, so childish, or so flat: But tho’
 ‘ I dare not go so far as that, I shall take
 ‘ upon me to say, that the Author has
 ‘ stolen his Hint out of the Garland, from
 ‘ a Riddle which I was better acquainted
 ‘ with than the Nile when I was but
 ‘ twelve Years old. It runs thus: *Riddle*
 ‘ *my Riddle my Ree, what is this? Two*
 ‘ *Legs sat upon three Legs, and held one*
 ‘ *Leg in her Hand; in came four Legs,*
 ‘ *and*

The HISTORY of

‘ and snatch’d away one Leg; up started
 ‘ two Legs, and flung three Legs at four
 ‘ Legs, and brought one Leg back again.
 ‘ This Enigma, join’d with the foregoing
 ‘ two, rings all the Changes that can be
 ‘ made upon four Legs. That I may deal
 ‘ more ingenuously with my Reader than
 ‘ the above-mentioned Enigmatist has
 ‘ done, I shall present him with a Key to
 ‘ my Riddle; which upon Application he
 ‘ will find exactly fitted to all the Words
 ‘ of it: One Leg is a Leg of Mutton;
 ‘ two Legs is a Servant-Maid, named so
 ‘ from the Number of her Legs; three
 ‘ Legs is a Joint-Stool, which in the *Sphinx’s*
 ‘ Country was called a Tripode; as four
 ‘ Legs is a Dog, who in all Nations and
 ‘ Ages has been reckoned a Quadruped.
 ‘ We have now the Exposition of our first
 ‘ and third Riddles upon Legs; let us here,
 ‘ if you please, endeavour to find out the
 ‘ Meaning of our second, which is thus
 ‘ in the Author’s Words:

*What stranger Creature yet is he,
 That has four Legs, then two, then three;
 Then loses one, then gets two more,
 And runs away at last on four?*

‘ This Riddle, as the Poet tells us, was
 ‘ proposed by *OEdipus* to the *Sphinx*, after
 ‘ he had given his Solution to that which
 ‘ the

‘ the *Sphinx* had propos’d to him. This
 ‘ *Oedipus*, you must understand, tho’ the
 ‘ People did not believe it, was Son to a
 ‘ King of *Thebes*, and bore a particular
 ‘ Grudge to the Treasurer of that King-
 ‘ dom ; which made him so bitter upon
 ‘ His Lordship in this Enigma.

*What stranger Creature yet is he,
 That has four Legs, then two, then three?*

‘ By which he intimates, that this great
 ‘ Man at *Thebes* being weak by Nature,
 ‘ as he admirably expresses it, could not
 ‘ walk as soon as he was born, but, like
 ‘ other Children, fell upon all four when
 ‘ he attempted it ; that he afterwards went
 ‘ upon two Legs, like other Men ; and
 ‘ that in his more advanced Age, he got
 ‘ a white Staff in Queen *Jocasta*’s Court,
 ‘ which the Author calls his third Leg.
 ‘ Now it so happened that the Treasurer
 ‘ fell, and by that Means broke his third
 ‘ Leg, which is intimated by the next
 ‘ Words, *Then loses one.*—— Thus far I
 ‘ think we have travelled thro’ the Riddle
 ‘ with good Success.

*What stranger Creature yet is he,
 That has four Legs, then two, then three?
 Then loses one——*

‘ But

‘ But now comes the Difficulty that has
 ‘ puzzled the whole Town, and which I
 ‘ must confess has kept me awake for these
 ‘ three Nights:

———*Then gets two more,
 And runs away at last on four.*

‘ I at last thought the Treasurer of *Thebes*
 ‘ might have walk’d upon Crutches, and
 ‘ so ran away on four Legs, viz. two na-
 ‘ tural and two artificial. But this I have
 ‘ no Authority for; and therefore upon
 ‘ mature Consideration do find that the
 ‘ Words (*Then gets two more*) are only *Greek*
 ‘ Expletives, introduced to make up the
 ‘ Verse, and to signify nothing; and that
 ‘ *runs*, in the next Line, should be *rides*.
 ‘ I shall therefore restore the true antient
 ‘ Reading of this Riddle; after which it
 ‘ will be able to explain itself.

OEdipus speaks:

*Now in your Turn, ’tis just, methinks,
 You shou’d resolve me, Madam Sphinx,
 What stranger Creature yet is he,
 Who has four Legs, then two, then three;
 Then loses one, then gains two more,
 And rides away at last on four?*

‘ I must now inform the Reader, that
 ‘ *Thebes* was on the Continent, so that it
 ‘ was

‘ was easy for a Man to ride out of his
 ‘ Dominions on Horseback; an Advantage
 ‘ that a *British* Statesman would be de-
 ‘ prived of. If he would run away, he
 ‘ must do it in an open Boat; for to say
 ‘ so of an *Englishman* in this Sense, that he
 ‘ runs away on all four, wou’d be as ab-
 ‘ surd as to say, he clapped Spurs to his
 ‘ Horse at St. James’s Gate, and gallop’d
 ‘ away to the *Hague*.

‘ Before I take my Farewel of this Sub-
 ‘ ject, I shall advise the Author for the
 ‘ future to speak his Meaning more plainly.
 ‘ I allow he has a happy Talent at Dog-
 ‘ grel, when he writes upon a known Sub-
 ‘ ject. Where he tells us in plain intelli-
 ‘ gible Language, how *Corisca’s* Ladle was
 ‘ lost in one Hole, and *Hans Carvel’s* Fin-
 ‘ ger in another, he is very jocular and
 ‘ diverting; but when he wraps a Lam-
 ‘ poon in a Riddle, he must consider that
 ‘ his Jest is lost to every one but the few
 ‘ merry Wags that are in the Secret. This
 ‘ is making darker Satires than ever *Per-*
 ‘ *sius* did. After this cursory View of the
 ‘ *Examiner’s* Performance, let us consider
 ‘ his Remarks upon the Doctor’s. That
 ‘ general Piece of Raillery which he pas-
 ‘ ses upon the Doctor’s considering the
 ‘ Treasure in several different Views, is
 ‘ that which might fall upon any Poem
 ‘ in *Waller*, or any other Writer who has
 ‘ Diversity

‘ Diversity of Thoughts and Allusions :
 ‘ And though it may appear a pleasant Ri-
 ‘ dicule to an ignorant Reader, is wholly
 ‘ groundless and unjust. I do likewise dis-
 ‘ sent with the *Examiner*, upon the Phrases
 ‘ of *Passions being poised*, and of the re-
 ‘ trieval *Merit from Dependance*, which
 ‘ are very beautiful and poetical. It is the
 ‘ same cavilling Spirit that finds fault with
 ‘ that Expression of the *Pomp of Peace*
 ‘ *amidst the Woes of War*, as well as of
 ‘ *offering unask’d*. As for the *Nile*, how
 ‘ *Icarus* and *Phaeton* came to be joined
 ‘ with it, I cannot conceive. I must
 ‘ confess they have been formerly used to
 ‘ represent the Fate of rash and ambitious
 ‘ Men ; and I cannot imagine why the
 ‘ Author should deprive us of those par-
 ‘ ticular Similes for the future. The next
 ‘ Criticism, upon the Stars, seems intro-
 ‘ duced for no other Reason but to men-
 ‘ tion Mr. *Bickerstaff*, whom the Author
 ‘ every where endeavours to imitate and
 ‘ abuse. But I shall refer the *Exa-*
 ‘ *miner* to the Frog’s Advice to her little
 ‘ one, that was blowing itself up to the
 ‘ Size of an Ox :

——— *Non si Te ruperis, inquit,*
Par eris ———

‘ The Allusion to the Victim may be
 ‘ a Gallimatias in *French* Politics, but is an
 ‘ apt and noble Allusion to a true *English*
 ‘ Spirit. And as for the *Examiner*’s Re-
 ‘ marks on the Word *Bleed* (tho’ a Man
 ‘ would laugh to see impotent Malice so
 ‘ little able to contain itself) one cannot
 ‘ but observe in them the Temper of the
 ‘ *Banditti* whom he mentions in the same
 ‘ Paper, who always murder where they
 ‘ rob. The last Observation is upon the
 ‘ Line, *Ingratitude’s a Weed of every Clime*.

‘ Here he is very much out of Hu-
 ‘ mour with the Doctor, for having cal-
 ‘ led that the *Weed* which *Dryden* only
 ‘ terms the *Growth* of every Clime. But,
 ‘ for God-sake, why so much Tenderness
 ‘ for Ingratitude?

‘ But I shall say no more. We are
 ‘ now in an Age where impudent Asser-
 ‘ tions must pass for Arguments: And I
 ‘ don’t question but the same, who has
 ‘ endeavoured here to prove, that he who
 ‘ wrote the *Dispensary* was no Poet, will
 ‘ very suddenly undertake to shew, that
 ‘ he who gained the Battle of *Blenheim* is
 ‘ no General.

Mr. *Addison* published only five Num-
 bers of the *Whig Examiner*. The second
 and fourth are in Answer to Lord *Boling-
 broke*’s Letter to the *Examiner*; but I must

not insert them for want of Room. He is afterwards said to have assisted Mr. *Manwaring*, Mr. *Steele*, Dr. *Hare*, Mr. *Oldmixon*, and others, in carrying on the *Medley*, a Paper which, as it was intended only for an Answer to the *Examiner*, was dropped the next Week after it, in *August 1711*. I shall only observe of these two Rivals, that the *Examiner* was thought in general to have much the most Wit.

The Inclinations of the new Ministers were so effectually made known to the *French Court*, that the Marquis *de Torcy*, at the Beginning of the Year 1711, transmitted to *England* the following Propositions, which were dated the 22d of *April*.

The first
Propositions of
France.

‘ **A**S it is not to be doubted but the
‘ King is in a Condition to main-
‘ tain the War with Glory ; so it cannot
‘ be esteemed a Sign of Weakness, that
‘ His Majesty breaks the Silence that he
‘ has kept since the Separation of the Con-
‘ ferences of *Gertruydenburgh*; and that
‘ before the Opening of the Campaign,
‘ he still gives new Proofs of the Desire
‘ that he has always preserved to procure
‘ the Re-establishment of the Repose of
‘ *Europe*: But after the Experience he
‘ has made of the Sentiments of those
‘ who now govern the Republic of *Hol-*
‘ *land*,

‘ *land*, and of their Industry to render the
 ‘ Negotiations fruitless, he is willing, for
 ‘ the Public Good, to address to the *Eng-*
 ‘ *lish* Nation the Propositions that he thinks
 ‘ fit to make to end the War, and firmly
 ‘ to secure the general Tranquillity of
 ‘ Christendom.

‘ It is with this View, that the King
 ‘ offers to treat of Peace upon the Basis
 ‘ of the following Conditions.

I. ‘ That the *English* shall have real
 ‘ Securities to exercise their Commerce
 ‘ hereafter in *Spain*, to the *Indies*, and in
 ‘ the Ports of the *Mediterranean*.

II. ‘ The King will agree to form in
 ‘ the *Low Countries* a sufficient Barrier for
 ‘ the Security of the Republic of *Holland*;
 ‘ and this Barrier shall be agreeable to *Eng-*
 ‘ *land*, and to the good liking of the
 ‘ *English*; his Majesty promising, at the
 ‘ same Time an entire Liberty and Secu-
 ‘ rity for the Commerce of the *Dutch*.

III. ‘ Reasonable Means shall be sin-
 ‘ cerely and *bonâ fide* sought out for, to
 ‘ satisfy the Allies of *England* and *Holland*.

IV. ‘ As the good State of the Affairs
 ‘ of the King of *Spain* furnishes new Ex-
 ‘ pedients to end the Difference touching

‘ that Monarchy, and to regulate it to the
 ‘ Content of the Parties interested, sin-
 ‘ cere Endeavours shall be used to sur-
 ‘ mount the Difficulties raised on this Oc-
 ‘ casion, and to secure the State, the Com-
 ‘ merce, and generally the Interests of all
 ‘ the Parties engaged in the present War.

V. ‘ The Conferences to treat of the
 ‘ Peace upon the Basis of these Condi-
 ‘ tions shall be immediately opened, and
 ‘ the Plenipotentiaries that the King shall
 ‘ nominate to assist thereat, shall treat
 ‘ with those of *England* and *Holland* alone,
 ‘ or jointly with those of their Allies, at
 ‘ the Choice of *England*.

VI. ‘ His Majesty proposes the Cities
 ‘ of *Aix la Chapelle* and *Leige* for the
 ‘ Place where the Plenipotentiaries shall
 ‘ be assembled, referring it to *England* to
 ‘ chuse one of those two Cities to treat
 ‘ therein of the general Peace. Given at
 ‘ *Marli* the twenty-second Day of *April*,
 ‘ 1711.

DE TORCY.

April 27,
 1711. O.S.

Mr. Secretary *St. John* transmits these
 Propositions to Lord *Raby*, the Queen's
 Ambassador at the *Hague*, with Or-
 ders to communicate them to the Pen-
 sionary,

fionary, ' to assure that Minister the Queen
' was resolved in making Peace, as in
' making War, to act in perfect Concert
' with the States ; and desires the Secret
' may be kept among as few as possible.
' He confesses that the Terms of the se-
' veral Propositions are very general ; that
' there is an Air of Complaisance shewn
' to *England*, and the contrary to *Holland*,
' which might be of ill Consequence, but
' can be of none, as long as the Queen
' and States take Care to understand each
' other, and to act with as little Reserve
' as becomes two Powers so nearly allied
' in Interest : And desires the Pensionary
' to be assured, that this Rule shall on
' our Part be inviolably observed.'

Lord *Raby* by his Letters to Mr. *St. May 25*
John, in answer to these Orders and As- and 26,
surances, acquaints him, ' That the Pen- 1711.N.S.
' sionary had, with those of that State
' who had been formerly employed in
' the Negotiations of Peace, considered
' Monsieur *de Torcy*'s Propositions, and
' the obliging Manner in which Her Ma-
' jesty was pleased to communicate them :
' That they thanked Her Majesty for
' Her Confidence in them, and assure
' Her, that theirs is reciprocal ; and that
' as Her Majesty had promised, she will
' make no Step towards a Peace but in
' Concert with them, they desire she may

‘ be assured of the same on their Part ;
 ‘ and that they will make no Step in that,
 ‘ or any other Kind of Negotiation, which
 ‘ regards the mutual Interests of both Na-
 ‘ tions, but in Communication and Con-
 ‘ cert with her Majesty. They urge the
 ‘ Necessity of an entire Confidence one
 ‘ with the other, at this critical Juncture ;
 ‘ they declare themselves weary of the
 ‘ War, which they endeavour to conceal
 ‘ from the Enemy, lest he should make
 ‘ his Advantage by it ; and that they are
 ‘ ready to join in any Measures, which
 ‘ Her Majesty shall think proper, to ob-
 ‘ tain a good Peace. But they look upon
 ‘ these Propositions as yet, in the same
 ‘ Manner as the Secretary does, to be very
 ‘ dark and general, and designed to create
 ‘ Jealousies between Her Majesty, that
 ‘ Republic, and the Allies ; but they de-
 ‘ pend upon Her Majesty’s Justice and
 ‘ Prudence, to prevent any such ill Effect,
 ‘ and hope she will make the *French* ex-
 ‘ plain, more particularly, the several
 ‘ Points contained in them’.

Lord *Raby* concludes, ‘ That he thought
 ‘ it adviseable, and necessary, to go open
 ‘ with the States in this Matter of the Pro-
 ‘ positions ; acquaints the Secretary that
 ‘ all the Letters from *France* agreed, that
 ‘ all the Hopes the *French* had was to sow
 ‘ Jealousies among the Allies.’ And re-
 peats

peats his Advice, ' That we must act cautiously with the States, that they may have no Reason to accuse us, for taking the least Measures without them.'

But it was not long before Mr. Secretary *St. John* prepared his Excellency to have other Sentiments of the Manner of carrying on this Negotiation, and acquaints *May 29.* him with the agreeable News, ' That it was Her Majesty's Pleasure, that his Excellency should make all possible Haste to come over, since her Service may better dispense with his Absence at this Point of Time, than it will perhaps do at another, and since we must now expect to have very soon upon the *Tapis*, many Intrigues, concerning which the Queen thinks it expedient that he should confer with the Ministers here ; acquaints him, that Her Majesty designed, upon his Arrival, to give him the * Promotion in the Peerage, which he had desired. And then, that his Excellency might begin to have some Notions agreeable to the Sense of our Ministers, Mr. *St. John*, in answer to some very long Letters of his Lordship's, tell him in these Words, ' That *Britain* had gone so much too far in weaving her Interest into that of the Continent, that it would prove no easy

* The making him Earl of *Strafford* ; which was accordingly done.

‘ Task to disentangle our Affairs without
 ‘ Tearing or Rending.

June 16. In answer to this, Lord Raby writes,
 ‘ You may be assured, I will venture any
 ‘ thing and undertake any thing to serve
 ‘ the Queen ; you may venture boldly to
 ‘ trust me with the real Intentions, and
 ‘ be assured, I will not make further
 ‘ use of them, than according to my In-
 ‘ structions.’ He tells him, ‘ If the
 ‘ Thing is actually gone no further than
 ‘ it appears, and *France* has not yet ex-
 ‘ plained, and he has a mind, that he
 ‘ should come over for the Queen’s Ser-
 ‘ vice, he is ready to come in a Yacht,
 ‘ Frigate, Packet-Boat, or any Way.’
 And concludes in short, ‘ Dispose of me
 ‘ how you please ; for all my Desire is
 ‘ to serve her Majesty to her Satisfaction,
 ‘ and I shall never grudge any Danger and
 ‘ Pains.’

Mr. PRI- Things being thus disposed, Mr. PRI-
 OR sent to OR was sent over to *France* in order to set
France. the Negotiations on Foot. But as most
 of his Papers relating thereto were either
 prudently concealed, or seized by the Mi-
 nistry of the late King, we must in many
 Places rely on the Report of the *Secret*
Committee, his professed Enemies, for an
 Account of what passed.

All Transactions betwixt *England* and *France* for some Time, except two or three Papers, were, they assured us, intirely suppressed, which in Lord *Strafford's* Instructions are said to have been carried on by Papers sent backward and forward, and much Time spent therein. The first Paper that was found, is called, *Private Propositions sent by Mr. PRIOR from England.* They here follow.

Saturday the first of July, 1711.

‘ **T**HAT the Man was to be sent over To-morrow for a final Answer. Private Propositions sent to France by Mr. PRIOR.

‘ That we would make no Peace but what should be to the Satisfaction of all our Allies; that the *Dutch* should have a Barrier, the Emperor one for their Security, and the Duke of *Savoy* one; and that he should have restored all that was put into his Possession by the Emperor; and that the *French* should restore all they had taken from him; and that he should have what other Addition should be thought proper; and that Care should be taken to keep the Balance in *Italy*; and that we should have positive Assurance that the Crowns of

‘ *France*

‘ *France* and *Spain* should never be
 ‘ united.

‘ That all our Allies should be satisfied
 ‘ according to their Agreements and Trea-
 ‘ ties with us.

‘ That the Trade of *Holland* should be
 ‘ secured.

*In Relation to GREAT BRITAIN in
 particular.*

‘ **T**HAT our Trade and Commerce
 ‘ should be settled and agreed, on
 ‘ such a Foot as will be to the Satisfaction
 ‘ of the Subjects of *Great Britain*.

‘ That the Government should be ac-
 ‘ knowledged in *France*, as it is now set-
 ‘ tled in *Great Britain*.

‘ That *Gibraltar* and *Port Mahon*
 ‘ should continue in the Possession they
 ‘ now are in.

‘ That *Dunkirk* should be demolish’d.

‘ That the *Assiento* should be entirely
 ‘ in the Hands of *Great Britain*; and that
 ‘ *France*, nor no other, should pretend to
 ‘ meddle in it, but *Britain* enjoy it after
 ‘ the Peace as the *French* do now.

‘ That *Newfoundland* should be entirely
 ‘ given up to the *English*; that the Trade
 ‘ of *Hudson’s Bay* should continue in the
 ‘ Hands

‘ Hands of the *French* and *English*, as
‘ they are now.

‘ And that all Things in *America* should
‘ continue in the Possession of those they
‘ should be found to be in at the Con-
‘ clusion of the Peace.

‘ That all Advantages, or Liberty of
‘ Commerce, that has been or shall be
‘ granted to the *French* by the *Spaniards*,
‘ shall be equally granted to the Subjects
‘ of *Great Britain*.

‘ That the Secret shall be inavoidably
‘ kept, till allowed to be divulged by the
‘ mutual Consent of both Parties con-
‘ cerned.

The next was a Paper called, Mr. PRI-
OR's *Authority*. This was signed, ANNE
R. at the Top, and A. R. at the Bottom,
not countersigned, and without a Date;
and the Contents were, *Mr. PRIOR is fully*
instructed and authorized to communicate to
France our Preliminary Demands, and to
bring us back the Answer.

Mr. PRI-
OR's Au-
thority.

These two Papers together were Mr.
PRIOR's Powers and Instructions, or at
least all that were given in by him on his
Examination; but by an Entry in Lord
Strafford's Book, subjoined to these private
Propositions carried over by Mr. PRIOR,
it appears that Mr. PRIOR had Orders to
see if *France* had full Powers from *Spain*.
There

Aug. 3.
N. S.

There is no Account given of any Correspondence with Mr. PRIOR during his Stay in *France*; nor does the certain Time of his Continuance there appear. Upon his Arrival there, Monsieur *de Torcy* tells Mr. *St. John*, ‘ He saw with great Pleasure Mr. PRIOR return after an Interval of so many Years; that he could have wished, he had had greater Liberty to employ those Talents which he was persuaded he would have made a good Use of; but he hopes Monsieur *Mesnager* will supply what he could not do.’ Upon his Return he was attended by Mons. *Mesnager*, a Minister of *France*, vested with full Powers in due Form, * to treat, negotiate, conclude, and sign with such Ministers, as should be authorized in due Form, not by *Britain* only, but any of the Princes or Estates then in actual War with *France*.

MR. PRIOR
OR seized.

MR. PRIOR, Mons. *Mesnager*, and the Abbé *Gualtier*, were seized at *Canterbury* in their Way to *London*, by Mr. *Macky* the Master of the Packet-Boats, who had got Information of Mr. PRIOR’s Journey: But it does not appear that they were long detained.

That Mons. *Mesnager*, upon his Arrival here, frequently conferred with the Queen’s

* Dated *August 3.*

Ministers, appears by many Instances; but the subject Matter of these Conferences, the Times, Places, and particular Persons with whom he treated, we find no Account of, till the 20th of September, 1711.

By a Letter of Mr. Secretary *St. John*, then at *London*, of that Date to the Queen at *Windsor*, it appears, that the Lord Treasurer, Lord Chamberlain, Lord *Dartmouth*, and Mr. *St. John*, met *Monf. Mesnager* that Evening at Mr. PRIOR's House; which Meeting, as Mr. *St. John* says, was by Order of the Lords of the Committee of Council; but seems unknown to the Queen, until the Secretary acquainted her with it by this Letter.

MADAM,

‘ THE Lords of the Committee of Council met this Morning at the *Cockpit*, and directed the Earl of *Dartmouth* and myself to confer with *Monf. Mesnager*. Mr. St. John's Letter to the Queen.

‘ We saw him accordingly this Evening at Mr. PRIOR's House, where my Lord Treasurer and my Lord Chamberlain were likewise present.

‘ He has put into our Hands the Answer signed by the King of *France* to the Demands last sent over by your Majesty's

' jesty's Order, and this Answer complies
 ' with every Article, except the Eighth re-
 ' lating to *North-America*: We find, how-
 ' ever, that we shall be able to compound
 ' this Point, in the Manner which your
 ' Majesty some Time ago resolved to pass
 ' it in; provided *France* gave you Satis-
 ' faction upon the seventh Article, as she
 ' has now entirely done.

' The Propositions which are to be
 ' sent into *Holland*, as the Foundation of
 ' a general Treaty, we have likewise re-
 ' ceived from him, and that which was
 ' thought most liable to Objection, has
 ' been very much mended. My Lord
 ' Treasurer having however proposed some
 ' farther Alterations, in order to make the
 ' whole the more palatable abroad; and
 ' Monsieur *Mefnager* seeming inclined to
 ' agree to them; I am this Night to draw
 ' them into Form, for my Lords of the
 ' Council to consider To-morrow Morn-
 ' ing.

' This, Madam, being the present Si-
 ' tuation of the Treaty, your Servants are
 ' unanimously of Opinion, that the War-
 ' rant and Full Powers should be prepared
 ' this Night, and transmitted to your Ma-
 ' jesty; by which Means, if it be your
 ' Pleasure, the latter may pass the Great
 ' Seal To-morrow.

‘ It is now so extremely late, and I
‘ have so much Business to do, which
‘ must of Necessity be got ready by Morn-
‘ ing, that the whole Night would not
‘ suffice, if I was to engross the Instru-
‘ ments in my own Hand-writing; I there-
‘ fore make use of a Clerk to transcribe
‘ them, but it is the same who has copy’d
‘ all the Papers which have passed in the
‘ Course of this Negotiation.

‘ There comes an exact Translation of
‘ the Full Powers in this Pacquet, the
‘ Words of which are very ample and ex-
‘ tensive; but they are agreeable to the
‘ Form used by your Majesty upon such
‘ Occasions.

‘ My Lord Treasurer moved, and all
‘ my Lords were of the same Opinion,
‘ that Mr. PRIOR should be added to those
‘ who are impowered to sign; the Reason
‘ for which is, because he having per-
‘ sonally treated with Monsieur *de Torcy*,
‘ is the best Witness we can produce of
‘ the Sense in which the General Prelimi-
‘ nary Engagements are entered into: Be-
‘ sides which, as he is the best vers’d in
‘ Matters of Trade of all your Majesty’s
‘ Servants who have been trusted in this
‘ Secret, if you shall think fit to employ
‘ him in the future Treaty of Commerce,
‘ it will be of Consequence that he has
‘ been a Party concerned in concluding
‘ that

‘ that Convention, which must be the
 ‘ Rule of this Treaty. The rest of the
 ‘ Plenipotentiaries are all those who have
 ‘ the Honour to sit in your Majesty’s Ca-
 ‘ binet-Council, which my Lords under-
 ‘ stood to be your Majesty’s Pleasure.

‘ The *Ostend* Mail, which arrived last
 ‘ Night, brought no News.

I am, MADAM, &c.

H. ST. JOHN.

Sept. 27,
 1711.

At this Meeting, the Letter informs us, Mons. *Mesnager* delivered to the *British* Ministers the Answer, signed by the King of *France*, to the Demands last sent over by *England*; which Demands and Answer were made the Secret Preliminary Articles betwixt *Great Britain* and *France*, and were signed as such by Mons. *Mesnager* on the Part of *France*, and the Acceptation of them by Lord *Dartmouth*, and Mr. *St. John*, on the Part of *Great Britain*.

And as Mr. *St. John*, in this Letter, represents it to the Queen, as the unanimous Opinion of her Servants then present, that a Warrant and Full Powers should be prepared that Night, and trans-
 mitted

mitted to Her Majesty to be signed, in order to pass the Great Seal the next Day; whereby the Persons therein named, among whom was Mr. PRIOR, were to be constituted Plenipotentiaries, to meet and treat with Monsieur *Mesnager*; a Warrant was accordingly prepared, and, with a Translation of the Full Powers, sent to the Queen.

This Warrant under the Signet appears signed by the Queen, directing the Lord Keeper to affix the Great Seal to an Instrument thereunto annexed, containing her Commission to himself, and others, therein named, to meet and treat with the *Sieur Mesnager*: But it does not appear, that any such Instrument did pass the Great Seal, the Warrant remaining not countersigned, and endorsed, *Not used*.

On the same Day that the special Preliminaries betwixt *Great Britain* and *France* were signed, another Set of General Preliminaries on the Part of *France* was signed by Monsieur *Mesnager* only; which Mr. *St. John*, in his Letter to the Queen, says, were to be sent into *Holland*, as the Foundation of a general Peace; in which my Lord Treasurer had made some Alterations, to make the whole more palatable abroad. And on the same Day, a separate Article was signed in Favour of the Duke of *Savoy*.

From this Time a perfect Confidence was established between the two Ministries of *England* and *France*; and in the Letters written in the Month of *October*, a mutual Sincerity is recommended and engaged for, and that a perfect Unanimity be maintained for accomplishing the Work in hand,

Lord *Strafford's* Instructions in order to his immediate Return into *Holland* were now preparing, and dated *Oct. 1. O.S. 1711*. And as an early Proof of the Confidence which Mr. *St. John* reposed in the *French* Minister, he acquaints *Monf. de Torcy* by Letter, that the Earl of *Strafford* was going for *Holland*; and says, 'Your Minister, (meaning Monsieur *Mesnager*, who was then going back to *France*, and carried this Letter,) is fully informed in what the Earl of *Strafford* is to propose to the States.'

Lord *Strafford's* chief Business was to deliver to the States the Propositions signed by Monsieur *Mesnager*, as the Foundation of a General Peace, and as the whole of what had been transacted; and to acquaint them, that *France* had proposed *Utrecht* *Nimeguen*, *Aix la Chapelle*, or *Liege*, to be the Place for opening the Conferences: To press the States to fix upon one of these Places, and immediately to grant Passports to the *French* Plenipotentiaries

tiaries to come thither, and open the General Conferences.

These Propositions, so very general, did extremely alarm the States, as not being, in their Opinion, a sufficient Foundation upon which a Negotiation might be hazarded.

They sent over Monsieur *Buys* to intercede with her Majesty to alter her Resolutions: They made the same Representations to the Earl of *Strafford*; but all to no Purpose. For, as Mr. *St. John* declared in a Letter to my Lord *Strafford*, ‘Cer-
tain it is that her Majesty has so far
determined upon her Measures, that
those will deceive themselves who may
imagine by Delay or other Artifices to
break them.’ And again ‘the Queen will
not finally concert a Plan for the Pro-
secution of the War with the States,
until they join with her in agreeing to
open the Conferences of Peace.’ And
Lord *Strafford* acquaints Mr. *St. John*,
‘That he had now told them Her Majesty’s
Order to him was to declare, That she
should look upon any Delay as a Refusal
to comply with her Propositions.’

In these Circumstances the *Dutch* at last comply to grant the Passports, and agree to open the General Conferences at the Time fixed by the Queen, *January* the 1st, 1711-12.

Oct. 29.

The Representations made by the States, on both Sides the Water, did however make some Impressions, as is evident by a Memorial delivered by Mr. *St. John* to the Abbot *Gaultier*, and by Mr. *St. John's* Letter to Monsieur *de Torcy* that accompanied it: Yet it is in the Memorial declared, ' That the Queen remains firm in her ' first Resolution of causing the Conferences ' to be opened upon the Articles signed by ' Monsieur *Mesnager*.' The same Memorial declares, ' it was absolutely necessary ' that the most Christian King should ' give to Her Majesty, the Queen, such ' Explications of his Intentions in respect ' to the particular Interests of the Allies, ' which he shall think proper to engage ' them to come more easily into the general Negotiation.

Nov. 18.

The Return made by *France* was contained in a Paper called, *Answer to the Memorial brought by Monsieur Gaultier*. This Memorial is accompanied with a Letter from Monsieur *de Torcy* to Mr. *St. John*, of the same Date, wherein he tells him, ' His Majesty wholly depends upon ' the Secrecy and good Use you will make ' of the entire Confidence he testifies to ' the Queen of *Great Britain*; and the ' King of *France* extols the Firmness of ' the Queen, and sees with great Pleasure ' the new Marks of Resolution she shews.'

Pursuant

Pursuant to the Resolution of the States-General upon the pressing Instances of the Queen, Passports for the *French* Plenipotentiaries were sent to Monsieur Buys, and delivered to Mr. St. John. *Utrecht* was agreed upon here, to be the Place for the general Conferences.

The Bishop of *Bristol*, then Lord Privy-Seal, and the Earl of *Strafford*, were appointed Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries. And *December* the 23d, 1711, Her Majesty's Instructions to her said Plenipotentiaries were settled and signed, wherein the Plenipotentiaries are ordered, ' That ' if it shall be thought proper to begin by ' the Disposition of the *Spanish* Monarchy, you are to insist that the Security ' and reasonable Satisfaction which the ' Allies expect, and which his most Christian Majesty has promised, cannot be ' obtained, if *Spain* and the *West-Indies* ' be allotted to any Branch of the House ' of *Bourbon*.' So that hitherto the Queen thought fit to declare, in all public Acts, that *Spain* and the *West-Indies* ought by no Means to be left in the Possession of the House of *Bourbon*.

On the 15th of *January*, 1711-12, the *British* Plenipotentiaries arrive at *Utrecht*, who by their general Instructions being ordered to concert Measures with the Ministers of the Allies, and at the Beginning

Plenipotentiaries appointed.

They meet at Utrecht.

Jan. 31.
17¹¹/₁₂.

pursuing these Directions; Monsieur de
Torcy writes to Mr. *St. John*, and tells
 him, 'He perceives there was not so per-
 'fect a Confidence established between
 'the * Plenipotentiaries of *France* and
 ' *Great Britain*, as was to be desired: He
 'believes therefore he will think it pro-
 'per to send to the Bishop of *Bristol* and
 'the Earl of *Strafford* more precise In-
 'structions, concerning the Manner, in
 'which they were to concert their Pro-
 'ceedings with the King's Plenipoten-
 'tiaries.' And in the Answer to the Me-
 memorial sent by Monsieur *Gaultier*, it is
 declared, 'The principal Order that the
 'King had given to his Plenipotentiaries,
 'when they set out for *Utrecht*, was to
 'establish a strict Intimacy between them
 'and the Ministers of the Queen of *Great*
 '*Britain*.'

I should exceed the Bounds I have pre-
 scribed myself, should I insert all that passed
 in this remarkable Congress, and which is
 already sufficiently public. In what fol-
 lows therefore, I shall confine myself to
 the more private Negotiations that were
 carried on at the *French* Court, in which
 Mr. PRIOR was immediately concerned.

* The Mareschal d'Uxelles, and the Abbé de Polignac, who had before treated at *Gertruydenburgh*.

While Matters at the Congress went on slowly, it was thought proper and necessary in *England*, that Lord *Bolingbroke* should go himself to *France*, finally to adjust and settle the great Points in Dispute.

The Substance of his Instructions was, Lord *Bolingbroke's*
 ' To remove all Difficulties and Differences Instructions for
 ' that might obstruct the general Suspension of Arms between *England* and his Embaf-
 ' *France* from taking Place, or settling fy to
 ' the Treaty of Peace in such a Course, *France*.
 ' as may bring it to a happy and speedy
 ' Conclusion. But to declare, that he does
 ' not imagine there will be any Possibility
 ' to prevail with the Queen to sign the
 ' Peace with *France* and *Spain*, unless
 ' full Satisfaction be given to his Royal
 ' Highness the Duke of *Savoy*, and un-
 ' less they can take him along with them
 ' in the doing thereof. He is therefore
 ' to take particular Care to settle his Bar-
 ' rier, and to procure *Sicily* for him; to
 ' settle the Renunciation in such a Man-
 ' ner, that there may be as little Room
 ' left as possible for Dispute or Delay;
 ' that the Elector of *Bavaria* may have
 ' *Sardinia*, and be restored to his Domi-
 ' nions in the Empire, except the *Upper*
 ' *Palatinate* and the first Electorate; and
 ' when he has had Satisfaction in these
 ' Points, he is to proceed to speak to such
 ' Articles as relate particularly to the In-

‘terest of *Great Britain*, and endeavour
 ‘to have such of them, as there may ap-
 ‘pear to be any Doubt concerning, ex-
 ‘plained in the most advantageous Man-
 ‘ner. And then he is to do his best to
 ‘discover upon the several Parts of the
 ‘general Plan of Peace, what the real
 ‘*Ultimatum* of *France* may be: And when
 ‘the Peace between *England* and *France*
 ‘shall be signed, that it may be expe-
 ‘dient to fix the Allies a Time to come
 ‘in, wherein the Queen will use her good
 ‘Offices, but will not be under any Obli-
 ‘gation to impose upon the Allies the
 ‘Scheme offered by *France*, or to debar
 ‘them from obtaining better Terms for
 ‘themselves.’

With these Instructions Lord *Bolingbroke* went to *France*; and as to his Proceedings there, we have a full Account of them in two Letters to Lord *Dartmouth*, from which the following Passages are extracted.

His Nego-
 tiations
 there.

“*Monf. de Torcy* and I began with the Interests of the Duke of *Savoy*, from whence the principal Obstacle to the Conclusion of the Suspension of Arms by Sea and Land arose, and after some Contestation have adjusted them in this Manner.

The Right of this Prince and of his Family to the Crown of *Spain* and the
Indies,

Indies, after *Philip* and his Descendants, is to be substituted in the same Acts and at the same Time as the several Renunciations and Settlements are made, declared, and confirmed, which are necessary to accomplish the Article for preventing the Union of the Two Monarchies.

On the Cession of *Sicily* he would have adhered to the Terms of his last Dispatch, and urged the Absurdity of giving this Kingdom away till they were sure of making Peace with *Savoy*. This Point being over, there was little Dispute about the Time when his Royal Highness shall be put into the actual Possession of this Kingdom: We have settled it to be on the Ratification of a general Peace, or of a Peace between the Queen, *France*, *Spain*, and *Savoy*.

I wish I could have prevailed on the Head of the Barrier as far as I did on the other Two; but it was impossible, at least it was so for me. Monsieur *de Torcy* represented that *Exilles*, *Fenestrelles*, and the Valley of *Pragelas*, besides the Restitution of all which *France* is in Possession of, was the utmost which the King would ever consent, or had ever consented to give.

The next Head to which we proceeded, was that of the Renunciations and Settlements necessary to prevent the Union of the Two Crowns, and in treating of this

I cannot say that I met with any Difficulty. I gave no Hopes that any Expedient would be accepted to sign the Peace before this Article was entirely accomplished; though Monsieur *de Torcy* proposed that the Peace should not be delayed for it, but the Ratifications should. He has since consulted Monsieur *Bergheyk*, and they are of Opinion that a Month's, or at farthest Six Weeks Time, will suffice to pass all the Forms; so that I am desired to recommend the Dispatch of my Lord *Lexington*, or whoever else the Queen shall think fit to send into *Spain*.

The Draught of *Philip's* Act of Renunciation, and the Minutes taken by by Monsieur *de Torcy* and me, both which I transmit to your Lordship, will, I suppose, be a sufficient Ground-work of Instructions to those whom Her Majesty shall chuse to send hither and to *Madrid*.

The last Point, and that on which we had the warmest Debates, was concerning the Elector of *Bavaria*. Monsieur *de Torcy* turned this Matter several Ways, and made Variety of Propositions. At last he rested on this, that the Queen should engage to procure for the Elector the Dutchy and Electorate of *Bavaria*, exclusive of the *Upper Palatinate*, and the Rank in the Electoral College; and that she should promise to maintain him
in

in the Possession of the Dutchies and Towns of *Luxemburg* and *Namur*, and in the Possession of *Charleroy* and *Nieuport*, until such an Equivalent for these Countries and Places was given him as he should be satisfied with. This Proposition I positively refused to assent to, and told *Monf. de Torcy* very plainly, that leaving these Towns and Places in the Elector's Possession till he had such an Equivalent as he should be satisfied with, was really giving them absolutely to him, which I knew Her Majesty neither could or would admit: Further, that Her Majesty would enter into no Engagements to procure any Thing for the Elector, or even to use Her Offices in his Behalf: But that Her Majesty would not oppose his having *Sardinia*, which Equivalent had been proposed first from hence. This I let him know was the Sum of all he was to expect from the Queen, and your Lordship will find the Minutes drawn accordingly.

The Suspension being now signed, I shall, pursuant to my Instructions, dispatch Her Majesty's Orders to Sir *John Jennings*, to Mr. *Cbetwynd*, and to the Officer who commands the Queen's Troops in *Catalonia*.

The Chevalier has fixed his Departure on the first of next Month, N. S. They propose that he shall retire to *Bar*; and they intend to write to the Duke of *Lorraine*,

rain, to ask of the Emperor, and other Princes, a Security for his Person during his Residence in that Place.

I enclose the Convention for the Armistice in the *Netherlands*, which your Lordship will have Occasion for, and which, with the Act of Renunciation, and the Minutes transmitted to you, will afford sufficient Materials for my Lord *Lexington's* Instructions.

As I intend to leave this Place on *Wednesday* at furthest, it will be proper to lose no Time in dispatching a Letter of Credence to Mr. PRIOR, to whom your Lordship will likewise please, as soon as possible, to send the Queen's Ratification."

Mr. PRIOR left in
France.

It appears by these Extracts, that Mr. PRIOR was in *France* with Lord *Bolingbroke*, and pitched upon to be left there, on his Lordship's Departure, to accommodate such Matters as were yet unsettled. He went over, as we learn from the State of his Accounts printed at the End of this Work, on the 1st of *August* this Year, and from the End of that Month had the Appointments and Authority of an Ambassador, though he did not assume the public Character till after the Duke of *Shrewsbury's* Departure the next Year, when his Journal begins. We find however, in what follows, that the Burthen of the Embassy lay

lay on him even during his Grace's Stay, who rather gave a Sanction to it by his high Quality, than contributed to the Dispatch of the Negotiations.

Immediately after Lord *Bolingbroke's* Arrival in *England*, he wrote this long and remarkable Letter to Mr. PRIOR, concerning the State of Affairs at that Time.

September 10th, 1712. O. S.

‘ I WAS equally surprized and vexed to find, that by the uncouth Way of explaining the Queen's Sense, you had been led to imagine, that it was intended my Lord *Lexington* should make any Difficulty of seeing and complimenting the King of *Spain* as such.

Lord *Bolingbroke*
to Mr.
PRIOR.

‘ We spent above three Hours in penning Minutes yesterday upon this Head, which was long ago adjusted. I suppose the Instructions will be at last clear; but my Lord *Lexington* having been present at the Debate, his understanding of the Matter will make amends for any dark ambiguous Article which may be in them.

‘ *Dartmouth* is to communicate the Queen's Orders herein to you, that so you may be able to satisfy the *French* Ministers, and they to prepare the *Spanish* Ministers: However, I will venture to tell you in a few Words what I understand

‘ derstand is to be the Measure of Lord
 ‘ *Lexington’s* Conduct. As soon as he ar-
 ‘ rives at *Madrid*, he will notify his Ar-
 ‘ rival to the Secretary of State ; he will
 ‘ when he sees this Minister let him know,
 ‘ that the Queen has sent him thither to
 ‘ compliment the King in her Name, to
 ‘ be a Witness of the several Renuncia-
 ‘ tions, and other Acts requisite to com-
 ‘ plete the Execution of the Article agreed
 ‘ upon as necessary to prevent the Union
 ‘ of the Two Monarchies: That after this,
 ‘ he is to proceed to settle such Matters
 ‘ of Commerce, and other Affairs as are
 ‘ for the mutual Interest of both Nations,
 ‘ and so take the Character of Ambassador
 ‘ upon him. My Lord will at the same
 ‘ Time produce his Credentials, and give
 ‘ the Secretary a Copy of them if he de-
 ‘ sires it. In this Conference he will fur-
 ‘ ther take Notice of the several Cessions
 ‘ made by the King of *France*, in behalf
 ‘ of his Grandson to the Queen, and will
 ‘ speak of them as Points which he looks
 ‘ upon to be concluded. He will likewise
 ‘ give a Memorial of them in Writing,
 ‘ signed by himself, to the Secretary, and
 ‘ expect from him an Assent in the King’s
 ‘ Name, in Writing also, and signed by
 ‘ the Secretary.

‘ This seems natural, civil, and unex-
 ‘ ceptionable ; but any other Scheme is
 ‘ absurd,

' absurd, and inconsistent with all the rest
' of our Proceedings.

' For God-sake, Dear *Matt.* hide the
' Nakedness of thy Country, and give the
' best Turn thy fertile Brain will furnish
' thee with to the Blunders of thy Country-
' men, who are not much better Politi-
' cians than the *French* are Poets !

' I have writ in great Hastē a prodi-
' gious long Letter to Monsieur *de Torcy*,
' which, I believe, he will shew you ; but
' for fear he should not, I enclose in this
' an Extract of Part of it, which relates
' to a Matter that has given Lord Treasurer
' and your humble Servant no small Trou-
' ble in Cabinet. The Copy of the Ple-
' nipotentiaries Dispatch of the 2d of
' *September*, which I likewise send you,
' will shew you how a Dispute now on
' Foot at *Utrecht* begun : You will observe
' that their Lordships are very warm in it,
' and I can assure you we have those who
' are not a Jot cooler.

' The Solution of this Difficulty must
' come from you ; it is matter of Manage-
' ment and Appearance, more than of
' Substance ; and the Court of *France* must
' be less politic than I think them at any
' Time, and more unreasonable than I
' think them at this Time, not to come
' into a Temperament upon a Matter un-
' necessarily started, You must begin by
' making

‘ making Monsieur de Torcy not only to
 ‘ understand, but own he understands the
 ‘ Proposition, which, I am sure he re-
 ‘ members, I more than once repeated to
 ‘ him when I was in *France*, upon vari-
 ‘ ous Occasions, and which I have again
 ‘ stated as clearly as I am able. The
 ‘ Queen can never do any thing, which
 ‘ shall look like a direct Restraint on her
 ‘ Allies from demanding what they judge
 ‘ necessary : But as long as they act the
 ‘ Part which they now do, she can very
 ‘ justly be Passive and Neuter as to their
 ‘ Interests; and if her Peace be made
 ‘ before theirs, which she will not delay
 ‘ for them, she can with the same Justice
 ‘ leave them to make their own Bargain.
 ‘ This is Advantage enough for *France*,
 ‘ and such an one, fairly speaking, as a
 ‘ Year ago they would have given more
 ‘ than *Tournay* to have been sure of: They
 ‘ must not therefore press us to go further
 ‘ than this, nor do any Thing which may
 ‘ seem contradictory to what the Queen
 ‘ delivered from the Throne. That Speech
 ‘ they have always owned as the Plan they
 ‘ submitted to, and it varies but little from
 ‘ that brought hither by *Gaultier*.

‘ In a word, the Use which the *French*
 ‘ will make of the unaccountable Obsti-
 ‘ nacy of the *Dutch* and other Allies,
 ‘ may in several Respects, and particularly
 ‘ for

‘ for aught I know in this Instance of
 ‘ *Tournay*, give them an Opportunity of
 ‘ saving and gaining more than they could
 ‘ have hoped for ; and the Queen may
 ‘ in the present Circumstances contribute
 ‘ passively to this End, but actively she
 ‘ never can in any Circumstances.

‘ I think in my own Opinion, and I
 ‘ believe speak the Queen’s upon this Oc-
 ‘ casion, that it were better the *French*
 ‘ should in the Course of the Treaty de-
 ‘ clare, that whatever they intended to
 ‘ have given the *Dutch*, when the Queen
 ‘ spoke from the Throne, their Conduct
 ‘ has been such, and the Situation of Af-
 ‘ fairs so altered, that the King is resolved
 ‘ to have *Tournay* restored to him ; I say,
 ‘ I believe this were better, than to expect
 ‘ that we should consent to an Exposition
 ‘ of the Queen’s Words, by which Her
 ‘ Majesty would yield the Town up.

‘ Let the Conferences begin as soon as
 ‘ they can, I dare say, Business will not
 ‘ be very speedily dispatched in them : In
 ‘ the mean Time we shall go on to ripen
 ‘ every Thing for a Conclusion between
 ‘ Us and *Savoy*, *France*, and *Spain* ; and
 ‘ this is the true Point of View which
 ‘ the *French* ought to have before their
 ‘ Eyes.

‘ You will be very shortly particularly
 ‘ and fully instructed to settle the Article

‘ of *North America*, and those Points of
 ‘ Commerce still undetermined. That
 ‘ done, the Ministers may sign at *Utrecht*,
 ‘ as soon as they can hear from Lord
 ‘ *Lexington*.

‘ My Lord *Dartmouth* writes to you
 ‘ concerning a Clamour which our Mer-
 ‘ chants have raised, as if under Pretence
 ‘ of not carrying to *Lisbon* or *Barcelona* *
 ‘ *des Provisions de Guerre ou de Bouche*,
 ‘ they shall be debarred from their usual
 ‘ Traffic of Corn and Fish, which at those
 ‘ Places there are great Demands for in
 ‘ Time of Peace as well as in War, and
 ‘ without any Consideration of the Ar-
 ‘ mies. The Difficulty as to *Lisbon* seems
 ‘ to be removed by the *Portugueze* sub-
 ‘ mitting to come into the Suspension of
 ‘ Arms, and he proposes to you an Ex-
 ‘ pedient as to *Barcelona*: But in Truth,
 ‘ that War must be ended of Course now,
 ‘ since the Queen supports it no longer,
 ‘ and the *Dutch* are re-calling their Fleet
 ‘ from the *Streights*. The Duke of *Ar-*
 ‘ *gyle* is going immediately now away,
 ‘ and the Moment he comes to *Minorca*,
 ‘ he draws to him every Thing belong-
 ‘ ing to the Queen out of *Catalonia*: The
 ‘ Imperial Troops must in my Opinion
 ‘ that Moment submit, and compound

* Provisions either of Arms or Victuals.

‘ for Transportation ; and when the War
 ‘ is at an End, I think there can be no
 ‘ Pretence of quarrelling with us for car-
 ‘ rying our Goods to the People of the
 ‘ Country.

‘ It is now Three o’Clock in the Morn-
 ‘ ing : I have been hard at Work all Day,
 ‘ and am not yet enough recovered to bear
 ‘ much Fatigue ; excuse therefore the Con-
 ‘ fusedness of this Scroll, which is only
 ‘ from *Harry* to *Matt.* and not from the
 ‘ Secretary to the Minister.

‘ Your Credentials of Minister Pleni-
 ‘ potentiary will be sent you, together with
 ‘ your Full Powers, by the next Boat, and
 ‘ before * *Duke Hamilton* goes, I will move
 ‘ to have you removed to *Utrecht*, which
 ‘ there will be a natural Handle for, as
 ‘ soon as you shall settle the Points of
 ‘ Commerce, and in doing that, have
 ‘ given the last Stroke to the finishing the
 ‘ Treaty with *France*.

‘ Make my Compliments to Madam
 ‘ *Teriol*, and let her know that I have,
 ‘ I hope, put her Affair into a Way of
 ‘ being finished to her Satisfaction. I
 ‘ have spoke very earnestly to *Maffei*, and
 ‘ have used the proper Arguments to him.

* *Duke Hamilton* was appointed Ambassador to *France* ;
 but being killed in a Duel by Lord *Mobun*, the Duke of
Shrewsbury was sent in his Place.

The HISTORY of

‘ Adieu! My Pen is ready to drop out
‘ of my Hand. Believe that no Man loves
‘ you better, or is more faithfully,

Yours, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

P.S. ‘ I had almost forgot to tell you
‘ that the Queen is pleased to discharge
‘ the Marechal * *Tallard’s* Parole, which
‘ you may assure him of, with my Com-
‘ pliments, and give any Signification
‘ necessary in Form.’

I must add two or three Things to this Letter, by Way of Explanation and Remark.

Remarks
on the
Letter.

First, It appears that Lord *Dartmouth* had by Mistake acquainted Mr. PRIOR, that Lord *Lexington* should not acknowledge PHILIP as King of *Spain*, till he had agreed to the Demands his Lordship was to make in the Queen’s Name. Mr. PRIOR having transmitted this Order to Lord *Lexington*, the Procedure was very much disliked in *France*. Hereupon Mr. PRIOR writes a Letter to Lord *Dartmouth*, to induce our Ministry to recede from this Point; concluding with the following Passage: “ The whole Treaty being eventual,

* He had some Time before been permitted to go to *France* on his Parole.

“ this

“ this Acknowledgment of PHILIP as
 “ King of *Spain*, will fall, as the other
 “ Points, unless the Conditions are made
 “ good, and the Peace agreed to and rati-
 “ fied.” In answer to this, Lord *Bolingbroke* wrote the Beginning of his Letter.

Secondly, That the Ministry here, as well as the Plenipotentiaries at *Utrecht*, were much embarrassed about the Dispute that had arisen concerning the Town of *Tournay*, and that Mr. PRIOR was left to settle this Point with the *French* Ministry.

Thirdly, That the Claims on *North America*, and the Business of Commerce, were the most essential Articles now to be concluded between *England* and *France*, and that these were to be adjusted by Mr. PRIOR, before the Plenipotentiaries at *Utrecht* could proceed.

Just about this Time Advice came, that the *French* had invaded the Leeward Islands. Such a Step as this was far from being expected, and Lord *Bolingbroke* writes thus of it to Mr. PRIOR.

‘ This, Dear *Matt.* proves a very un-
 ‘ toward *Contretemps*; it gives a Theme
 ‘ to the Whigs, and serves to awaken Pas-
 ‘ sions that were almost lulled asleep.
 ‘ We expected that *Cassart's* Squadron
 ‘ might be gone to the Coast of *Brazil*, or
 ‘ to *Surinam*; but we never imagined our
 B b 3 ‘ Colonies

Sept. 19.
O. S.

‘ Colonies would have been attacked by
 ‘ him, at the Time when we were knit-
 ‘ ting the Bands of Friendship between
 ‘ the two Nations with all possible Indus-
 ‘ try. Could this ill Opinion of our new
 ‘ Friends have entered into our Heads, I
 ‘ do assure you he should have been ac-
 ‘ companied by a Fleet of the Queen’s,
 ‘ which would have kept him in Respect.
 ‘ In a Word, we depended so much upon
 ‘ the good Understanding, which we
 ‘ thought established, and were so earnest
 ‘ to prevent any Thing which might
 ‘ break in upon it, that we not only avoid-
 ‘ ed to fortify our Squadron as we might
 ‘ have done, but we also neglected to put
 ‘ in Execution some Designs, which
 ‘ would have annoyed both *French* and
 ‘ *Spaniards*, perhaps more than any that
 ‘ have been effected in the Course of this
 ‘ War.

This Affair, however, did not put a
 Stop to the Negotiations that were on
 foot. The latter End of *October* Mr.
 PRIOR was sent into *England* by the King
 of *France*, to prevail with the Queen to
 join with him in obtaining the Elector of
Bavaria’s Demands. He brought with
 him a Credential Letter to the Queen,
 which is here inserted.

Versailles,

Versailles, October 28th, 1712.

Madam, My Sister,

‘ **Y**OU having acquainted Me, that The King
 ‘ You have an entire Confidence in of France's
 ‘ Mr. PRIOR, I thought he would be more Credential
 ‘ capable than any Body, to inform you Letter sent
 ‘ of the new Proofs that I am ready to by Mr.
 ‘ give You, of the particular Regard I PRIOR.
 ‘ have for You, as also of my Desire to
 ‘ terminate without any Delay, in Concert
 ‘ with You, the Negotiations of Peace.
 ‘ He goes into *England* to give You an
 ‘ Account of the further Advances that I
 ‘ am willing to make, to facilitate an en-
 ‘ tire Conclusion of this Work. I would
 ‘ have You therefore regard what I do in
 ‘ this decisive Conjunction, as new and
 ‘ certain Marks of my Friendship for You;
 ‘ and do Me that Pleasure to acknowledge
 ‘ them, by interesting Yourself with Me
 ‘ in Favour of the Elector of *Bavaria*.
 ‘ I do not remind You of the Ties of
 ‘ Blood which unite Him as well to You
 ‘ as Me, nor of any other Reasons which
 ‘ ought to render You sensible of his Con-
 ‘ dition: It is sufficient for Me that You
 ‘ are sensible of the Concern that I have
 ‘ in what regards him; and I am per-
 ‘ suaded that this will be the principal

‘ Motive that will press You to act in his
 ‘ Favour. I expect with Impatience the
 ‘ Return of Mr. PRIOR, whose Conduct
 ‘ is very agreeable to Me: And as he will
 ‘ assure You of what my Sentiments are,
 ‘ I will only add that he cannot sufficiently
 ‘ express the perfect Esteem and sincere
 ‘ Friendship I have for You.

I am,

Madam, My Sister,

Your Good Brother,

LOUIS.

About the Middle of *November* Mr.
 PRIOR was sent back into *France* with
 new Instructions, and the following Letter
 from Her Majesty to the *French King*.
 These two remarkable Letters are lasting
 Testimonies of the high Confidence Mr.
 PRIOR was in, not only with his own
 Sovereign, whom he had long and faithfully
 served, but with the King of *France*,
 whom he had more than once made the
 Object of his Satire.

Windsor,

Windsor, November 14th, 1712.

Monsieur, My Brother,

I HAVE received with a very sincere The
 Pleasure the agreeable Letter which Queen's
 Mr. PRIOR brought Me from You. As Answer
 your consummate Wisdom hath taken sent back
 the Resolution that is most proper to fix by Mr.
 the Terms of the Peace, You'll be per- PRIOR.
 suaded, that I will not on my Part lose
 a Moment to hasten the Conclusion of
 it. I assure You, that the great Facility
 that you are willing to lend towards it
 out of a Regard to Me, shall be made
 no other Use of, than to be employed
 without any Delay to re-establish the
 public Tranquillity, according to the
 Wishes of Us both. By the Orders that
 I give to My Ministers at *Utrecht*, it will
 appear that I do all that is in My Power
 at the present Conjunction, in favour of
 a Prince whose Interest is supported by
 your Generosity.

I do not at all doubt, but he himself
 is fully convinced of it, and that all the
 World agrees in it; I again repeat, Mon-
 sieur my Brother, that the Consideration
 of Your Friendship will be a very prevail-
 ing Motive to engage Me a-new in his
 Interest, and in the Interest of his Fa-
 mily, as Occasion shall offer, for the
 Future:

‘ Future: As to the rest, I send back Mr.
 ‘ PRIOR to *Verfailles*, who in continuing
 ‘ to conduct himself in the Manner that
 ‘ shall be entirely agreeable to You, does
 ‘ no more than execute to a Tittle the
 ‘ Orders which I have given him; and
 ‘ amongst all the Proofs of his Duty and
 ‘ Zeal for my Service, I expect in a very
 ‘ particular Manner that he should take
 ‘ all possible Occasions to repeat to You the
 ‘ Esteem and perfect Regard that I have
 ‘ for You, and My earnest Desire to live
 ‘ with You in a sincere and perpetual
 ‘ Friendship.’

With Regard to the *Newfoundland*
 Fishery, and other Articles relating to
America, it appears that thro’ the wonted
 Insincerity of the *French*, there was much
 ‘ Trouble in getting those Matters adjusted.
 Lord *Bolingbroke* writes concerning them,
 both to the Duke of *Shrewsbury* and Mr.
 PRIOR. To the latter he expresses himself
 thus:

Lord Bo-
 lingbroke to
 Mr. PRI-
 OR, Jan.
 29th,
 1713.
 C. 5.

‘ I have exhausted all my Stock of Ar-
 ‘ guments in the long Letter which, by
 ‘ the Queen’s Order, I write to the Duke
 ‘ of *Shrewsbury*: To you I can only add,
 ‘ We stand indeed upon the Brink of a
 ‘ Precipice, but the *French* stand there too.
 ‘ Pray tell Monsieur *de Torcy* from me,
 ‘ that

‘ that he may get *Robin* and *Harry* hang-
 ‘ ed; but Affairs will soon run back into
 ‘ so much Confusion, that he will wish
 ‘ us alive again. To speak seriously, un-
 ‘ less the Queen can talk of Her Interests
 ‘ as determined with *France*; and unless
 ‘ your Court will keep our Allies in the
 ‘ Wrong, as they are sufficiently at this
 ‘ Time, I foresee inextricable Difficulties.

‘ My Scheme is this: Let *France* sa-
 ‘ tisfy the Queen, and let the Queen im-
 ‘ mediately declare to Her Parliament,
 ‘ and in the Congress, That She is ready
 ‘ to sign: At the same Time let the *French*
 ‘ Plenipotentiaries shew a Disposition to
 ‘ conclude with all the Allies.’ And then
 his Lordship enumerates the several Offers
 which he would have *France* make to the
 several Allies; and says, ‘ If such Over-
 ‘ tures as these were not instantly accepted,
 ‘ our separate Peace would, sitting the
 ‘ Parliament, be addressed for, made, and
 ‘ approved; and the Cause of *France* for
 ‘ once become popular in *Britain*.

‘ If they were accepted, let Monsieur
 ‘ *de Torcy* sit down and consider, what a
 ‘ Bargain would be made for *France*; let
 ‘ him remember his Journey to the *Hague*,
 ‘ and compare the Plans of 1709, and
 ‘ 1712.

‘ Monsieur *de Torcy* has a Confidence
 ‘ in you: Make use of it once for all
 ‘ upon

‘ upon this Occasion, and convince him
 ‘ thoroughly, that we must give a different
 ‘ Turn to our Parliament and our People,
 ‘ according to their Resolution at this
 ‘ Crisis.’

Jan. 22. The next Letter from his Lordship to
 Mr. PRIOR, is upon the same Subject, and
 of the same Strain: ‘ We are now, says
 ‘ his Lordship, at the true Crisis of our
 ‘ Disease; we die at once, or recover at
 ‘ once: Let *France* depart from that
 ‘ shameful Expedient by which they
 ‘ thought to bubble us out of the Advan-
 ‘ tages which they had solemnly yielded,
 ‘ and all is well; otherwise, *by God*, both
 ‘ they and we are undone.

‘ Pray send *Barton* back as fast as pos-
 ‘ sible. The Queen can neither delay the
 ‘ Meeting of the Parliament longer than
 ‘ the 3d, nor speak to the Houses, till we
 ‘ hear from you.

‘ My Compliments to Monsieur *de Torcy*:
 ‘ Let him know, that if they do not
 ‘ agree with the Queen, I may perhaps
 ‘ be a Refugee: If I am, I promise before-
 ‘ hand, to behave myself better in *France*,
 ‘ than the *French* Refugees do here. Make
 ‘ the *French* ashamed of their sneaking
 ‘ Chicane; by Heaven, they treat like
 ‘ Pedlars, or, which is worse, like At-
 ‘ tornies.’

Mr. PRIOR a little before had sent a Dispatch * to the Secretary's Office, giving a full Account of the present State of the Treaty, together with several Papers, Memorials, and Propositions relating to the Points in Dispute, and concerning Commerce, and *North America*. The Day after he writes to my Lord Treasurer, and tells him, 'I have wrote a Book instead of a Letter, to my Lord *Bolingbroke*, which I desire your Lordship would be pleased to run over, that knowing what I have done here, you may honour me with your Commands as to what I am to do. I hope my Proposal about *Newfoundland*, which I send your Lordship enclosed, is such as may terminate that Affair to our Advantage. If your Lordship is of the same Opinion, I shall have entire Satisfaction.'

Mr. PRIOR to the Earl of Orford.

Mr. PRIOR having sent another full Account to the Secretary of State, writes the same Day to my Lord Treasurer, 'That he had been in Conference with the *French* Ministers to adjust the Points undecided between Her Majesty and the King of *France*; that he had sent Lord *Bolingbroke* the Result of those Conferences, as well what was agreed to by the *French* Ministers, as his own Re-

Jan. 8.
1712.
N. S.

* Dated December 28, 1712.

‘ marks upon each particular Head; and
 ‘ says, I hope your Lordship will find the
 ‘ whole adjusted so far to your Satisfaction,
 ‘ as that our Plenipotentiaries may receive
 ‘ their final Orders. I will not doubt but
 ‘ the whole Affair of *Newfoundland* is ad-
 ‘ justed to your Desire. There were some
 ‘ Points insisted upon by our Plenipoten-
 ‘ tiaries, which the Ministers here thought
 ‘ very unreasonable; and to say a Truth
 ‘ to my Lord Treasurer plainly, which I
 ‘ a little mitigate to my Lord *Bolingbroke*,
 ‘ I think not very reasonable.’ He then
 gives an Account ‘ that *Monfieur de Torcy*
 ‘ was surprized, that the *Dutch* had but
 ‘ in Part complied with what Lord *Straf-*
 ‘ *ford* declared to them to be Her Ma-
 ‘ jesty’s Resolutions, to which he hopes
 ‘ the Queen will send such an Answer as
 ‘ may cut off all Delays:’ And upon this
 Occasion Mr. PRIOR says to My Lord
 Treasurer; ‘ This I only write to your
 ‘ Lordship, it being a Thing that should
 ‘ not be canvassed in Council; and I have
 ‘ promised that the King should have Her
 ‘ Majesty’s Answer upon it, as he desires.’

Jan. 19.
 1713.

Mr. PRIOR writes again to my Lord
 Treasurer, and acquaints him, ‘ That the
 ‘ Duke of *Shrewsbury* now sends to Lord
 ‘ *Bolingbroke* the Substance of their last
 ‘ Conferences with *Monfieur de Torcy*,
 ‘ upon the Subject of *Newfoundland*: To
 ‘ which

‘ which I take Leave to add, That your
 ‘ Friend *Torcy* is in the last Concern to
 ‘ find the Duke’s Instructions so strict, in
 ‘ a Point which cannot be given up by
 ‘ *France*, at a Time when we well hoped
 ‘ that Difference was adjusted. Pray, my
 ‘ Lord, let us have your distinct and po-
 ‘ sitive Orders hereupon by the first. I
 ‘ send your Lordship enclosed a Copy of
 ‘ my Letter to my Lord *Bolingbroke*, and
 ‘ the Duke of *Shrewsbury* desires, that
 ‘ we may have your Orders to finish. I
 ‘ believe *Torcy* writes himself to you.’

He writes once more to my Lord Trea- Jan. 26.
 surer on the same Head, and tells him, ‘ I 17¹².
 ‘ have already wrote so amply to your
 ‘ Lordship, on the two great Points of
 ‘ *Newfoundland*, and the Tariff of 1664,
 ‘ and expect so daily your last Orders upon
 ‘ those two Points, that I will not trouble
 ‘ you at present further than to say, if
 ‘ these two are settled, the Peace may be
 ‘ determined here To-morrow, and sent
 ‘ the next Day to *Utrecht* to be signed.’
 And ten Days after Mr. PRIOR says to my
 Lord Treasurer; ‘ If I desire you to write Feb. 2d.
 ‘ to me, it is because I really think it for 17¹².
 ‘ the Queen’s Service; that in this great
 ‘ Post where you have put me, I may be
 ‘ able to say, I have the immediate Com-
 ‘ mands of my Lord Treasurer; and in
 ‘ regard to that Friendship with which
 ‘ you

‘ you have so publickly honoured me,
 ‘ and which, by the By, does all the Bu-
 ‘ siness here.’ And again, ‘ I shall direct
 ‘ myself as you shall be pleased to instruct
 ‘ me privately.’

In May
 1713.

In a Letter to Lord *Bolingbroke* some Time after the Conclusion of the Peace, Mr. PRIOR expresses himself merrily concerning the Difficulties that had arisen on the Articles of Commerce. ‘ We had
 ‘ like, says he, to have made an *Athana-*
 ‘ *sian* Business of it at *Utrecht*, by that
 ‘ Explanation of our own Way of under-
 ‘ standing our own Commerce. Their
 ‘ Letters to you, full of Surmises and
 ‘ Doubts that all was unhinged; and
 ‘ their Letters to us again, that Explana-
 ‘ tions, however made, were only to save
 ‘ Appearances, and signified nothing;
 ‘ this *Mélange*, I say, and my endeavour-
 ‘ ing to understand it, had like to make
 ‘ me run mad, if the Duke of *Shrews-*
 ‘ *bury*’s extreme good Sense, and Monsieur
 ‘ *de Torcy*’s not only honest, but right
 ‘ Understanding, had not redressed us.’

This is all that remains of Mr. PRIOR’S concerning the Business of *Newfoundland*. We have only a few Fragments more of his writing during the Negotiations in *France*, which relate chiefly to the Chevalier’s Departure, mentioned in Lord *Bolingbroke*’s Letter of September 10, 1712.

It

It is on this Account that Mr. PRIOR writes thus to my Lord *Bolingbroke*. ‘ An- Dec. 28th,
 ‘ other Point upon which this Court is 1712.
 ‘ very solicitous, is, That the Chevalier
 ‘ remaining in any Town of *France* ob-
 ‘ structs the Signing the Peace; yet he
 ‘ cannot go to *Lorain* till the Emperor’s
 ‘ Passports will secure him there. Your
 ‘ Lordship, by the Perusal of the Papers,
 ‘ will see the State of that Case; and I
 ‘ have only to add upon this Subject, that
 ‘ the Court of *France* expresses an Impof-
 ‘ sibility on their Sides, to do more than
 ‘ they have done, and hopes we should have
 ‘ Interest enough with the Emperor, to
 ‘ obtain such Passports from him, as may
 ‘ secure, as well as the Person who is to
 ‘ go into *Lorain*, as the Duke of *Lorain*,
 ‘ who is to receive him.’

And to the same Effect he writes to Dec. 29th.
 my Lord Treasurer, and says, ‘ The Mo-
 ‘ narch is a good deal troubled upon this
 ‘ Head, lest the young Man should fall
 ‘ into the Hands of the *Hussars* or *Bar-*
 ‘ *barians*. And Mons. *D’Aumont* has, I
 ‘ presume, Orders to speak to our Mi-
 ‘ nistry upon it.

‘ As to the Dowry, I shall not only be
 ‘ dunn’d to Death, but hang’d; for the *
 ‘ Dowager sends Messengers to me, which

* The Queen of the late King JAMES.

‘ you in *England* do not think it extremely
 ‘ lawful to receive: But if it is to be paid,
 ‘ pray let it be done in an handsome Man-
 ‘ ner, that may shew the Charity of the
 ‘ Queen, and the Generosity of Her Lord
 ‘ Treasurer.’

Nov. 6th,
 1713.
 Lord Bo-
 lingbroke
 to Mr.
 PRIOR.

But though the Chevalier was removed
 into *Lorain*, upon an Address of the *Brit-
 ish* Parliament, Lord *Bolingbroke* writes
 almost a Year after to Mr. PRIOR, upon
 the same Business, and says; ‘ Her Majesty
 ‘ having repeated to the Duke of *Lorain*
 ‘ the Instances which you know have been
 ‘ so often made to the most Christian King,
 ‘ for removing of the Pretender to Her
 ‘ Crown out of his Dominions, I am di-
 ‘ rected to acquaint you therewith, that
 ‘ you may speak to the Minister of *Lorain*,
 ‘ and to any other Minister whom you
 ‘ shall think proper, and let them know
 ‘ it is absolutely inconsistent with the Ami-
 ‘ ty and good Correspondence that is be-
 ‘ tween the Queen and their Masters, to
 ‘ receive into their Dominions, or to pro-
 ‘ tect a Person, who disputes Her Ma-
 ‘ jesty’s most undoubted Title, and there-
 ‘ by endeavours to disturb the Peace and
 ‘ Quiet of Her Kingdoms. That you
 ‘ may be able to shew them that this is
 ‘ the collective Sense of the whole Nation,
 ‘ as well as the Queen’s Command to you,

‘ I

‘ I herewith send you the Addresses of both
‘ Houses of Parliament.’

Mr. PRIOR being left sole Minister, upon
the Duke of *Shrewsbury's* Return to *En-*
gland, he received soon after a Letter from
Lord *Bolingbroke*, in which was the fol-
lowing Passage :

‘ There is a Person here, of whom Sept. 25th
‘ we have never taken the least Notice 1713.
‘ as a public Man, but who, however,
‘ is an Agent from the *Catalans*. By what
‘ we observe in him it is pretty plain,
‘ that a reasonable Accommodation might
‘ be made with that turbulent People.
‘ What is the Sense of the *French* Court
‘ on this Matter ? How far will they con-
‘ cur with the Queen in advising *Philip*
‘ to make an End of that War ?’

In Pursuance of this Instruction, we
find that Mr. PRIOR address'd Monsieur
de Torcy in Favour of the *Catalans*, who
after speaking of it to the King, returned
the following Answer.

‘ **Y**OU received, Sir, some Time M. de Torcy
‘ since, Orders from the Queen of cy to Mr.
‘ *Great Britain* to use Her good Offices PRIOR,
‘ with the King in Favour of the *Cata-* Nov. 13th.
‘ *lans*, who have rebelled against the King

‘ of *Spain*, and of the Inhabitants of *Barcelona*. You acquainted me, that Her
 ‘ *Britannick* Majesty was sure they would
 ‘ submit to the King their Master, if that
 ‘ Prince would grant them a general Am-
 ‘ nesty, the Restitution and Enjoyment
 ‘ of all their Estates, and in short the
 ‘ same Conditions which he had caused
 ‘ to be offered them, and which they did
 ‘ not accept, without mentioning their
 ‘ antient Privileges any more.

‘ The Answer which the King just now
 ‘ receives from the Catholick King upon
 ‘ this Article, is, That he is still willing
 ‘ to grant the same Conditions to the re-
 ‘ bellious *Catalans*, notwithstanding they
 ‘ rendered themselves unworthy of his
 ‘ Favours, by slighting them, and altho’
 ‘ he is now in a Condition to reduce
 ‘ them by Force: He desires the King to
 ‘ impart his Answer to the Queen of *Great*
 ‘ *Britain*, my Lord *Lexington* having had
 ‘ no Orders to speak about this Affair.’

I now proceed to Mr. PRIOR’s Journal,
 from the Duke of *Shrewsbury*’s Departure
 out of *France*, till his own Return into
England after the Accession of King *George*,
 as it was found among his Papers in the
 Hand-writing of *Adrian Drift*, Esq; his
 Excellency’s Secretary.



Mr. *PRIOR*'s JOURNAL

A T T H E

COURT of *FRANCE*.



I S Grace the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, and My Lady Dutcheſs, ſet out from *Paris* in a Berlin on *Wednesday* the 31ſt of *August*, 1713, N. S. between One and Two in the Morning, and arrived at *Calais* on *Sunday* Evening the 3d of *September*; were entertained at Supper by *Monſieur de Mole* the Governor there, and about Eleven at Night embarked on Board the *Peregrine* Galley, Captain *Saunderson* Commander; and at Seven the next Morning landed ſafe at *Dover*, where his Grace reſted but two Hours, and then proceeded onwards to *London* with my Lady Dutcheſs; whence his Grace went to *Windsor*, and had Audience of Her Maſteſty; gave Her an Account of his Embaſſy, with which Her Maſteſty was well pleaſed.

At Seven in the Morning Mr. *PRIOR*, in *Sept. 13th.* his own Coach with ſix Horſes, ſet out from *Paris* for *Fontainbleau*, where he arrived about

the same Hour in the Evening; and between Nine and Ten paid a Visit to Monsieur de Torcy.

Sept. 15th. Mr. PRIOR presented to Monsieur de Torcy a Memorial on the following Heads.

“ That the fifty Sols *per* Ton laid in *France* on all *English* Shipping, and five Shillings *per* Ton imposed in *Great Britain* on those of *France*, should be taken off on both Sides.

That several *English* Merchants, who were come to load Salt in the Ports of *France*, might be permitted to sail with their said Loading.

That an Answer might be returned to Mr. *Pownol*'s Memorial concerning his Estate at *Dunkirk*, given by the King to the Marquis de *Livry*.

That Monsieur *Pontchartrain* return an Answer to the Memorial relating to the Ship the *Three Brothers* of *New York*.

That Answer be made concerning the Affair of Mr. *Welden*.

To the Affair of Mrs. *Lynche*'s Marriage.

That the * *Galeriens* be set at Liberty, according to the Specification given to Mr. *Pecquet*.”

At the same Time Mr. PRIOR presented a Memorial from Captain *Peter Peterfon*, concerning the Ship *John Baptist*, seized at *Marseilles*.

Monsieur de Torcy promised to procure Answers as desired, and gave to Mr. PRIOR in Writing that about Mr. *Welden*'s Affair; with several Papers annexed.

* Galley Slaves.

Mr. PRIOR received from Monsieur *de Torcy* Sept. 17th. the Answer of the Marquis *de Livry* to the Papers of Mr. *Pownol*, &c.

A Memorial was presented to Monsieur Sept. 18th. *Desmarets*, signed by Mr. PRIOR, desiring an Order to the Custom-House Officers at *Paris*, that they may deliver sixteen Cases come from *Rouen*, addressed to Mr. PRIOR, and one Hogshead of Wine, to the Person appointed by him to receive the same, without being opened.

The same Day the Papers above-mentioned concerning Mr. *Pownol* were delivered to him, with which he did not seem satisfied, and said he would petition the King, and deliver it himself. Mr. PRIOR promised to do him all the good Offices in his Power.

A Passport was given to Lieutenant Colonel Sept. 20th. *James Urquhart* and Major *Duncan Campbel*, in the Regiment of the Lord *Mark Kerr*, at *Port Mahone*, to go to *London*.

Another Passport to Captain *James Davidson*, in the Regiment of Colonel *Molesworth*, also at *Port Mahone*, to go to *London*.

Mr. PRIOR presented to Monsieur *de Torcy* a Memorial, with one annexed from Monsieur *de Douglas*, concerning his Claim to the Village of *Dankelsheim* and *Kittesheim* in *Alsace*, &c.

Another Memorial relating to the Ship *Neptune*.

A Third relating to the fifty Sols pour *Tonneau*, and the five Shillings ditto—to the *English* Vessels that come to load Salt,—to the ninth Article of Commerce, &c.—to Commissioners for opening of Commerce,—to the Ship the *Three Brothers* of *New-York*,—to

Dame *Lynche*,—to the Release of the Prisoners in the Gallies.

Sept. 23d. I carried by Mr. PRIOR's Order to Mr. *Pecquet*, Dispatches to Lord *Bolingbroke* of the 22^d, O. S. upon several Heads, being an Answer to his Lordship's Letters of the 9th, the 12th, and the 15th of *September* N. S. At the same Time I delivered to Mr. *Pecquet* a Packet addressed to Mr. *Tilson*, containing Letters from Lord *Lexington*; all which were given to a Courier of Mr. *Torcy's*, sent by him the same Day to the Duke *D'Aumont*.

N. B. Mr. *Welden's* Papers, a Letter from the Dutcheſs of *Berry* to the Queen, Renunciations of the Chamber of *Nantz*, and a Letter from *Jenkinson*, were inclosed in the above Letters.

Sept. 25th. Receiv'd from Mr. *Burch* at *Madrid*, a Letter of the 11th Instant, inclosing Letters for *England*.

Sept. 26th. Received Letters from the Lord *Bolingbroke*, dated at *Windsor-Castle* the 8th Instant, by the Way of *Dunkirk*.

This Afternoon Mr. PRIOR waited on the Elector of *Bavaria*, who went soon after from hence to *Compeigne*.

In the Evening Mr. PRIOR waited on Monsieur *de Torcy*, and presented to him a Memorial relating to the delivering up to Her Majesty's Troops, upon their Arrival at *Newfoundland*, the Town and Fort of *Placentia*.

Mr. PRIOR received from Mr. *Pecquet* an Order from Monsieur *Desmarets* to the *Fermiers*

miers of the Custom-House at *Paris*, to deliver to whom Mr. PRIOR should appoint, sixteen Cases, and a Hogshead of Wine, without paying any Custom, or searching of the said Cases.

Mr. PRIOR having received from Monsieur *Sept. 29th.*
de Torcy a Letter from Mr. *de Pontchartrain*, under a flying Seal to Mr. *de Costebelle*, Governor for the King at *Placentia*, inclosing an Order from His Majesty to the said Governor, dated the 29th Instant, (with the Copy of the 13th Article of the Treaty of Peace) directing him to deliver up to Her Majesty's Troops, *Placentia*, &c.

Mr. PRIOR writ to my Lord *Bolingbroke* thereupon, inclosing the said Letter, and a Copy of his own Memorial of the 26th, to Monsieur *de Torcy*, on that Subject.

A Letter to the Lord Treasurer, and another to the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, were sent at the same Time; as also one to *l'Abbé Gaultier*.

Two Packets from Monsieur *de Torcy*; one to the Duke *D'Aumont*, and another to Monsieur *l'Abbé Gaultier*.

Letters from Lord *Lexington*.

About Four in the Afternoon Mr. *Barton*, *Sept. 30th.*
one of Her Majesty's Messengers, was dispatched from hence with the Letter and Packets above-mentioned.

Mr. *Bill*, one of Her Majesty's Messengers, *Octob. 2d.*
arrived at *Fontainbleau* this Day about Eleven o'Clock, with Letters from my Lord *Bolingbroke* to Mr. PRIOR, dated at *Windsor* the 15th of September 1713, O. S.

Octob. 4th. Mr. PRIOR gave in Treplicates of Memorials to Monsieur de Torcy, one concerning Mr. Smith, the other Mr. Peterson.

Octob. 5th. Mr. PRIOR understanding by a Servant that he had sent to Monsieur de Torcy, about One o'Clock, to know when he might discourse with him, that Monsieur de Torcy was going to *Villeroy*, and would not return till the next Evening to *Fontainebleau*, immediately went to Monsieur de Torcy, &c.

Octob. 6th. Letters by the Way of *Dunkirk* came in from *England*, dated 18th of *September*, O. S. inclosing one to Lord *Lexington*, and another to Admiral *Jennings* at *Toulon*.

Octob. 9th. Mr. Bill was dispatched about Three o'Clock in the Afternoon from *Fontainebleau*, with Letters to Lord *Bolingbroke*, Duke of *Shrewsbury*, Lord Treasurer, Mr. *Gaultier*, Mr. *Shelton*, Mr. *Tilson*, and Mr. *Hare*.

Oct. 10th. About six in the Morning Mr. PRIOR, in his own Coach and Six Horses, set out from *Fontainebleau* for *Paris*, arrived at *Erton* about Eleven, stayed there till Four, then proceeded on his Journey, and came to *Paris* about Six in the Evening to his own Hôtel.

Mr. *Barton* arrived here about Eight on *Friday Night*, with Dispatches from *England*, dated *September 29*, O. S. and a Plenipotentiary Power to Mr. PRIOR, to decide the Affair of *Menton* and *Roccabrun*, between the Duke of *Savoy* and the Prince of *Monaco*. At the same Time Mr. PRIOR was informed by my Lord *Bolingbroke*, that the Queen did not intend that he should stay longer in *France*, and that my Lord Treasurer would take better Care

Care of him, and that General *Rofs* was accordingly named Envoy Extraordinary.

Mr. PRIOR went to *Croissy* about six Leagues from *Paris*, where he continued till *Saturday*, and arrived at *Paris* about Four in the Afternoon.

Gave a Pass to *Le Sieur Pierre la Roache* * *et a la Femme, avec un Domestique*, to return to *London*.

Count *Nieuville*, Ambassador from the *Sunday* Grand Master and Order of *Malta*, sent a the 16th. Compliment to Mr. PRIOR, that though he was so ill that he could not pay his Duty to the King at *Fontainbleau*, he would pay a Visit to the Queen of *Great Britain* whenever Mr. PRIOR should appoint, which he prevented by going the next Day, the 17th, to visit the Ambassador. His Excellency's Gentlemen were ready to receive Mr. PRIOR at the Coach; and immediately as he alighted, his Excellency met him, gave him the Hand and Honour of his House, and re-conducted him to his Coach.

Sent Letters to Lord *Bolingbroke* of the Oct. 17th. same Date, to the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, &c. by the Way of *Dunkirk*.

Mr. PRIOR discoursed with Mr. *Pajot* and Mr. *Frowde*, in relation to the Treaty about settling a Correspondence of Letters, &c.

Mr. PRIOR went to *Versailles* in the Afternoon, presented a Memorial about *Jenkinson*. Gave to *Thomas Thompson* and *Ralph Bailey*, † *Sujets de S. M. la R. de la G. Bretagne*, a

* And his Wife with a Domestique.

† Subjects of Her Majesty the Queen of *Great Britain*.

396 Mr. PRIOR's JOURNAL.

Pass to go to London. They had one from Mr. *Stanyan*, dated at *Bern* the 18th of *September*, 1713.

Oct. 19th. Mr. PRIOR returned from *Versailles* in the Evening.

Oct. 20th. Dispatched Mr. *Barton* to *England*, with Letters to Lord *Bolingbroke* and Lord *Treasurer*.

Oct. 27th. Gave a Passport to *Richard Stow* and *John Green*, *Sujets de sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne*, who brought Mr. *Stanyan's* Passport, dated at *Bern* the 9th of Oct. 1713. They said they had served the Duke of *Savoy*. Gave them ten Livres.

Mr. *Elcock* the Messenger arrived here about Nine at Night, with Letters from the Lord *Bolingbroke*. — He said, he had Letters for Lady *Fersey*, from Lord *Bolingbroke*, and Lord *Lansdown*.

Oct. 28th. Gave a Passport to *Terence Brady* and his Wife to go to *London*. He was taken Prisoner with *Hamilton's* Regiment at *Marchiennes*. Colonel *Douglas* by Letter desires Mr. PRIOR's Passport for him.

Oct. 29th. Gave a Passport to *Ephraim Vickass*, Barber to a Vessel taken by the *French*: He was carried to *Smyrna*, and on the Publication of the Cessation of Arms, was permitted to go to *Leghorn*, from thence to *Toulon*; from whence he came to *Paris*, had a Passport from the Count de —, dated the 5th Instant. He had also a printed Passport on Paper, on which was written, Attestations of the Places he had come through to *Paris*.

Dispatched

Dispatched Mr. *Elcock* to *England* with *Nov. 1st.*
Letters to Lord *Bolingbroke* and Lord Treasurer of the same Date.

Gave a Passport to *Thomas Baldwin*, who had formerly served Mr. PRIOR as a Footman.

Mr. PRIOR and Mr. *Pajot* examined the *Nov. 2d.*
Treaty for establishing the Postage of Letters between *England* and *France*, and signed the same, Mr. *Frowde* being present: There were two Treaties in *French* and two in *English*: Mr. *Frowde* had the two *English* to get ratified in *England* by the Post-masters there, which is to be done in eight Days, and one of them so ratified to be sent to Mr. *Pajot*; in Lieu of which Mr. *Pajot* returns one of the Treaties in *French*, to be kept in the Post-Office at *London*, as that in *English* is to be kept in the Post-Office at *Paris*; so that the Post-masters in *London* have one in *French* and one in *English*; and the Post-master at *Paris* has one in *English* and one in *French*.

Gave a Passport to *Robert Smith*, Esq; and *Nov. 9th.*
Ralph Currice, his Valet, to go to *London*.

Edward Housan brought a Certificate from the *Nov. 12th.*
Marshal Duke of Tallard, that he had served him faithfully two Years as Under-Huntsman, dated *November 8, 1713*, signed *Tallard*, and witnessed *Harding*. He said he came over with *Tallard*; upon which Mr. PRIOR gave him a Passport.

Mr. PRIOR went to Monsieur *de Torcy's* *Nov. 16th.*
with the Duke of *Richmond*, to present his Affair; and at the same Time presented to Monsieur *de Torcy*, a Memorial relating to
Captain

Captain *Buttler*, recommended to him by the Duke of *Ormond*.

Nov. 16th. Mr. George Arbuthnot having served as Captain in Her Majesty's Regiment of Foot, commanded by Colonel Kane, came to me this 16th Day of November 1713, N. S. and acquainted me that the said Regiment having been broke at Calais in June last, he the said George Arbuthnot is no otherwise provided for by the Government, than by the Half-Pay which Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to allow to the Officers of the said Regiment. At Paris the Day and Year above-written.

M. P.

Nov. 17th. Gave a Pass to Mr. Philemon Pownol, to go to London.

Nov. 17th. Gave a Pass to William Smith, a Hampshire Man, who came from Geneva, being set ashore there in his Passage to Smyrna on Board a Merchantman, the Sea not agreeing with him—the Ship named the *London Merchant*. He continued there five Months. Gave him five Livres.

Nov. 18th. Gave a Pass to John Smith of New-York, concerned in the Ship the *Three Brothers* of that Country, to go to London.

Nov. 19th. Gave a Pass to William Everet, who came from Dunkirk; being discharged from the Regiment of Colonel Disney, at his the said Everet's Request, the 29th of July 1713. He came to Paris with one William Desfrom, a Dancing-master, who had a Passport for himself

himself and six Others, from the Earl of *Atb-*
lone dated at *Mons* the 1st of *October* 1713.

The Secretary of the Envoy of the King *Nov. 27th.*
of *Sicily*, came with *le Sieur St. Ispolise* to
present him to Mr. PRIOR, and to desire for
the said * Mr. *Ispolise* a Passport to go to
London. He produced a Passport signed by
Mr. *Chetwynd*, the 5th of *September* 1713,
for his passing from *Turin* to *France*, and
from thence to *England*. The said Passport
was signed this Day by Mr. PRIOR, for his
going to *England* accordingly.

Duke *D'Aumont* arrived here on *Saturday* *Nov. 25th.*
the 25th Instant, and went to *Versailles* the
next Day the 26th.

The Earl of *Peterborough* arrived here on *Nov. 26th.*
Sunday Evening the 26th Instant. As did
Admiral *Jennings*, who took up his Lodgings
in the same Hôtel as Mr. PRIOR.

Monday Morning about Nine Mr. PRIOR *Dec. 4th.*
went in his own Coach and Six with Admi-
ral *Jennings* to the Earl of *Peterborough's*, to
the Hôtel *Modene*, where about Ten the
Duke *D'Aumont* arrived as he had promised
my Lord *Peterborough*. Mr. PRIOR and Ad-
miral *Jennings*, upon his Arrival, went down
Stairs, received him at the Gate, and went in
his Coach to *Versailles*, where they arrived
about Eleven, and descended at his Hôtel there;
and soon after, the Duke *D'Aumont* went to
Monsieur *de Torcy's*, and the Lord *Peter-*
borough to the Duke's Lodgings in the Cha-
teau. Mr. PRIOR at the same Time went

* Colonel in Her Majesty's Service, and Adjutant-
General to his Royal Highness the Duke of *Savoy*.

also to Monsieur *de Torcy's*. The Admiral followed my Lord *Peterborough* about an Hour after his Lordship came to Monsieur *de Torcy's*. His Lordship, Mr. PRIOR, and Admiral *Jennings*, dined with Monsieur *de Torcy*; as did also the Duke *D'Aumont*, Mareschal *Tbessé*, Mareschal *Tallard*, the Cardinal *de Polignac*, and several others, Persons of Distinction. About Five the same Afternoon, his Lordship had an Audience of the King in his Closet, introduced thereto by the Marquis *de Torcy*, Mr. PRIOR being present. After which the Duke *D'Aumont* presented Admiral *Jennings* to His Majesty, who received him very graciously; told him he was glad to see a Man who had gained so great a Reputation in Maritime Affairs; that as Her Majesty had deservedly promoted him for these Services, he doubted not but he would dedicate the rest of his Life to the Service of so good a Mistress. Admiral *Jennings* not speaking *French*, the King desired Mr. PRIOR to tell him in *English* what he said; which Mr. PRIOR did accordingly: About Seven the same Evening the Earl of *Peterborough* returned to *Paris*, as did Mr. PRIOR the next Day in the Evening: The Admiral staying at *Versailles*, being invited by the Count *Toulouse* to Supper with him.

Dec. 6th. My Lord *Peterborough* went to *Versailles* about Noon, and Mr. PRIOR dined at *Paris* with Mr. *Annisson* and Monsieur * *d'Iberville*.

* Appointed Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Great Britain.

Mr. *Elcock*, one of Her Majesty's Messengers, arrived here on *Wednesday* Afternoon about Five o'Clock, with Letters from *England*, dated the 19th of *November* 1713. He left *England* on *Friday* last. Answered the said Letters, and sent them by Admiral *Jennings* the 7th.

Mr. PRIOR went with Lord *Peterborough* to *Versailles*.

I sent Captain *Padden's* Letter to Mr. *Burch* mentioned in Mr. *Tilray's* of the 20th of *November*.

My Lord *Peterborough* about Noon went from *Paris* in his Way to * *Sicily*.

Mr. *Elcock* was dispatched about Seven in the Morning with Letters to Lord *Bolingbroke* and Lord Treasurer, &c.

By a Letter from Mr. *Burch* without Date, he advises that my Lord *Lexington* left *Madrid* the 28th of *November* 1713, to return by the Way of *Lisbon* to *England*.

Mr. *Barton* arrived about Ten this Morning with Letters from Lord *Bolingbroke*, dated at *Windfor* the 2d of *December* 1713, N. S. And about Twelve Mr. PRIOR went to *Versailles*, gave in a Copy of a Memorial relating to the *Galeriens* presented by the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, and another from himself for others; and before his Departure went to Monsieur *Pontchartrain*, gave in two Memorials, that of Captain *Burnaby's* and of the Ship *Plymouth*.

Barton brought with him from the Post-Master-General, *The Treaty for the Corres-*

* His Lordship was going Ambassador thither.

Mr. PRIOR's JOURNAL.

pondence of Letters between France and Great Britain : Signed by Mr. Pajot and Mr. PRIOR the 2d Day of December, N. S. at Paris, 1713. Ratified by the said Post-Master in the Words following, viz.

‘ We, Sir *Thomas Frankland*, Baronet,
 ‘ and Sir *John Evelyn*, Baronet, Post-Masters-
 ‘ General of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and
 ‘ of all other the Dominions of Her Majesty
 ‘ of *Great Britain*, and General of all the
 ‘ Couriers and Posts, having read and con-
 ‘ sidered the Articles of Agreement in a
 ‘ Treaty made and concluded on the Second
 ‘ Day of *November*, N. S. in the Year of
 ‘ our Lord 1713. between the Honourable
 ‘ MATTHEW PRIOR, Esq; Minister and
 ‘ Plenipotentiary of the Queen of *Great*
 ‘ *Britain* to his most Christian Majesty, as
 ‘ having Power and Procuration from us on
 ‘ the one Part, and *Lewis Pajot*, Count
 ‘ of *Onsenbray*, Lord of *Villers*, *St. Aubus*,
 ‘ *du Vauroux*, and other Places, Comptrol-
 ‘ ler-General of the Posts of *France*, as hav-
 ‘ ing Commission and Power from M. *John*
 ‘ *Baptist Colbert*, Chevalier, Marquis of *Tor-*
 ‘ *cy*, *Croissy*, *Sable*, *Bris*, *Dauphiné*, and o-
 ‘ ther Places, Minister and Secretary of State,
 ‘ and of the Commands of his most Christian
 ‘ Majesty, Commander and Superintendant-
 ‘ General of the Posts and Couriers of *France*,
 ‘ on the other Part, for establishing the good
 ‘ Correspondency and Intelligence between
 ‘ the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *France*,
 ‘ as to the Intercourse of the Posts ; do upon
 ‘ full Satisfaction of the Contents of the said
 ‘ Treaty,

‘ Treaty, contained in one and twenty Articles in *English* afore-written, ratify and confirm all and every the Articles and Clauses therein contained. General Post-Office, London, November 17th, 1713.

THO. FRANKLAND,
JOHN EVELYN.

Mr. PRIOR went to Mr. *Pajot* this Morning, and exchanged with him the Treaty abovementioned, for that in *French*, intituled, *Traité pour la Correspondence des Lettres entre la Grande Bretagne et la France*. The Ratification of the said Treaty was signed at *Paris* by Monsieur *de Torcy*, the 9th of November, 1713. Dec. 22d.

COLBERT DE TORCY.

The Post-Masters transmitted Bills to Mr. *Pajot* for 19473 Livres 14 Sols, towards the Discharge of the Debt due to him from the Post-Office, London.

N. B. Mr. *Barton* was dispatched to *England* the 25th Day, in the Evening, with Letters to Lord *Bolingbroke*, Lord-Treasurer, and Lady *Masham*, —and carried with him the aforesaid Treaty in *French*, for the Post-Masters at *London*, and a Letter from Mr. *Pajot* to the said Post-Masters.

This Day Mr. PRIOR had a private Audience of his Majesty in his Closet, introduced by the Marquis *de Torcy*, upon the Subject of the Letters brought by Mr. *Barton*; the Substance Dec. 23d.

stance of which will be found in Mr PRIOR's
* Letter to Lord *Bolingbroke* of the 25th Instant.

Jan. 5th.
1714.

About six in the Evening *Jonathan* was dispatched to *England*, with Letters to Lord Treasurer, Lord *Bolingbroke*, Mr. *d'Iberville*, Monsieur *Gaultier*, and other private Letters, and Truffles for the Queen.

This Day Mr. PRIOR gave a Bill of 4000 Livres upon *Tourton*, for the present, to M. *Breteuil* and Mr. *Saintot*. — Remember to ask Mr. *Ganré* for the Receipts Mr. PRIOR gave him for the said Money, as also for what was given to Mr. *Merlin*, Secretary to the Introdutors, &c.

Jan. 9th.
1714.

Receiv'd a Letter from the Post-Master-General of *London*, dated the 24th of *December*, O. S. acknowledging the Receipt of the Counterpart of the Ratification aforementioned, signed by Monsieur *Torcy*, for the Establishment of the Correspondence of Letters, signifying that the *Pacquet-Boat* settled is to go every *Monday* and *Thursday* to *Calais*, to bring the Mail sent from *Paris*.

N. B. The Letters go from *Paris* to *Calais* *Wednesday* Morning Eight of the Clock, and *Saturday* Morning, ditto.

Mr *Barton* arrived here with Letters from my Lord *Bolingbroke* this Evening, dated at *Windfor* the 29th of *December*.

The next Day Letters from *England* came in by the Post, and brought one (amongst others) from Mr. *Wace*, of Mr. Secretary

* This Letter is not among the Papers.

Bromley's Office, inclosing one by Mr. *Lewis's* Order, to the great Master of *Malta*, from the Queen.

Mr. PRIOR was pleased to go to the Mi- *Jan. 20th.*
nister here from *Malta*, to deliver the said Letter himself; but the Ambassador not being at home, he was pleased to send *Drift* on Monday the 22d, in his Coach, with four Servants, who presented the said Letter with his Compliments to the Ambassador.

Mr. *Barton* was dispatched to *London*, with *Feb. 4th.*
Letters for Lord *Bolingbroke*, and Lord Treasurer; and he departed from hence about 5 in the Morning.

Gave a Pass to *Peter Sampson*, of the Isle *Feb. 5th.*
of *Jersey*, to go to *London*. ---He was here about a Ship loaden with Coals from that Island, which was condemned for having one Pound fourteen Ounces of Tobacco on board. ---Mr. PRIOR was pleased to give in several Memorials for the Relief of the said *Sampson*, and to have the Ship set at Liberty. Monsieur *Desmarets* would do little in it.

Gave a Pass to *John Saunders*, who pro- *Feb. 11th.*
duced a Passport, signed by Mr. *Stanyan* at *Bern* the 15th Day of *January*, 1714, and counter-signed by *L. Schaub*.

Mr. *Barton* arrived at *Versailles* this Day, *Feb. 13th.*
about two in the Afternoon, with Letters from Lord *Bolingbroke* and Lord Treasurer.

Mr. *Frederick Sadier*, Engraver, who came *Feb. 15th.*
from *England* in King *Charles II*d's Time, and has been many Years in *Paris*, desiring to return to *England* with one of his Sons, Mr. PRIOR spoke to Monsieur *de Torcy* about it the 13th; and the 15th Mr. PRIOR was pleased

ed to give him his Passport, bearing date the same Day, for him and his Son *Henry*. He has a Wife here of the North of *Ireland*; her Name is *Margaret Sadier*; and a Son, *Frederick*.

Feb. 27th. Gave a Passport to Mr. *John Burnaby*, to go to *London*.

Mar. 3d. Gave a Passport to Colonel *John Leckner*, to go to *Port Mabone*, to his Regiment there --- *Passer a Port Mabon, — dans l'Isle de Minorque, le Sieur Jean Leckner Anglois, Col. d'un Regiment de la Reine a present sur cette Isle.*

Mar. 5th. Gave a Certificate to Mr. *George Arbuthnot*, *Mutatis mutandis*, the same as that of the 16th of *November, 1712*, the Date only changed to this Day.

On Mr. PRIOR's writing a Letter to the *Baron de Breteuil*, to have Meat during Lent, at the *Hôtel de Dieu*, the Introducator sent him the Order in the Words following, *viz.*

** Nous Baron de Breteuil et de Preuilly, premier Baron de Touraine, Conseiller du Roy en ses Conseilles, Introducateur des Ambassadeurs et Princes Etrangers aupres de sa Majesté, enjoignons au Boucher de l'Hôtel Dieu de fournir*

** In English: "We the Baron of Breteuil and Preuilly, first Baron of Tourain, Councillor to the King in his Councils, Introducator of Ambassadors and Foreign Princes to his Majesty, enjoin the Butcher of the Hôtel Dieu to furnish during Lent, at the Market Price established by the King's Order, all Sorts of Butcher's Meat that shall be necessary for the Subsistence of the Family of Mr. PRIOR, Plenipotentiary from the Queen of Great Britain. Given at Paris the 6th Day of March, 1714."*

pen-

pendant le Carefme au Prix Ordinaire, fuyvant l'Ordre du Roy, toute la Viande de Boucherie et Rotifferie qui fera neceffaire pour la Subfiftance de la Maifon de Monsieur PRIOR, Plenipotentiaire de la Reine de la Grand Bretagne. Fait a Paris le fixieme Jour de Mars, 1714.

LE BARON DE BRÈTEUIL.

Par Man. de Seigneur.

DE CERNY.

Gave a Passport to *Thomas Hulfe* of *Nantwich*, in the County of *Chester*, to return to *England*. *Mar. 11th.*

Mr. Barton was difpatched to *London*, with an Account of the Peace being figned between the Emperor and his moft Chriftian Majefty. *Mar. 13th.*

Mr. PRIOR went this Afternoon to *St. Claude*, to the Elector of *Bavaria*, who has a Houfe there, to congratulate him upon the Peace; as all the Minifters of *France*, and the Ambaffadors and Envoys of Foreign Minifters have done. *Mar. 16th.*

Gave a Passport to *Joseph Harrifon*, a *Staffordshire* Man, and Buckle-Maker, to go to *London* about his Trade. He came into *France* during the laft Peace. *Mar. 20th.*

Mr. Henry Villiers went from hence this Morning with *Mr. Rowland Bright*, who came from the Lord *Bolingbroke* hither for him. They both had *Mr. PRIOR's* Passport; *Mr. Hayward* the Meflenger, and *Jonathan Mr. PRIOR's* Servant, accompanying them. *Mar. 24th.*

Mar. 23d. Gave a Passport to *Mary Robinson, Mary Skinn, Francis Willington, Mark Mold, and Robert Ratborn, a Child, (of the Company of Rope Dancers)* to go to *England*.

Mar. 27th. Gave two Passports, dated this Day, to *Thomas Loving, John Rinet, Charles Freemin, Gilles Pillon, Anthony Fouché, Gilles Blanchat, Dennis Raullet, Jacques Mason, Charles Gallet, and Thomas Lucas* of the *Isle of Jersey*, who sailed from thence in the Ship *Pierre*, bound to *Leghorn*: They were cast away on the Coast of *Provence*. They brought a Passport from the Governor there, *Mr. Jonville*, dated the 3d Instant, signifying their having been cast away on the same Coast——Gave them thirty Livres.

Mar. 31st. Gave a Passport to *William Wagstaff*, a Servant to *Mr. Banis*, and brought over with him from *England*. *Dr. Lidderal* spoke in his Favour; and a Servant of the Duke of *Richmond* came to desire that he might have the Passport, the said *William* being to go away the next Day, the 2d of *April, 1714*.

Mar. 31st. Gave a Passport to *Richard Hunter* and *Mary Burgefs*, Servants to the Right Honourable the Countess of *Jersey*, to return to *London*, dated this Day.

April 2d. Gave a Passport, dated this Day, to *Jean Cabot, Thomas Lauine, Martin Cousin, Jean le Ber, Jacques Jardin, and George Garnier*, six Matelots of the same Crew abovementioned, cast away in the Ship *Peter*, as abovementioned.

April 6th. Gave a Passport to *Frederick Sadier*, and *Margaret* his Wife, and to *Frederick and Henry*

Henry, and their Servant Maid, to go to *England*. *Vide* the 15th of *February* foregoing.

Mr. *Bill* the Messenger arrived here in the Evening, with Letters from Lord *Bolingbroke*, dated the 21st of *April*, O. S. May 5th.

Gave a Passport to *Gervais Road*, born at *Stepney*, who was cast away the 18th of *February*, 1714, on board the Ship *Victory*, Captain *Miller* Commander, at *Rosar*, within ten Leagues of *Naples*, coming from *Smyrna* to *Leghorn* with Silks. May 11th.

Gave a Passport to Mr. *Christopher Kane* and his Wife, two Footmen and a Maid Servant.

Mr. *Barton* was dispatched from hence about Five of the Clock this Afternoon. May 12th.

Mr. *Smith* arrived the same Evening. *Barton* returned with him from *St. Dennis*, and set out the next Morning early, the 13th, for *England*.

Mr. *Bill* was dispatched to *England*. May 15th.

Mr. PRIOR went to Monsieur *Amelot*. Monsieur *Lecheraine*, and Monsieur *Bernardin* were there; and had a Conference concerning *Menton* and *Rocabrun*. May 22d.

Gave a Passport to *Charles Goset*, *Jean Gallet*, *Nicholas Fillet*, *Pierre Chatelair*, *Jacques Fourdain*, *Richard l'Anglois*, et *Jean la Fosse*, Matelots of the Isle of *Jersey*. They were cast away in the Ship *Pelegrin*, commanded by *James du Doit*, on the Coast of *Provence*, the 25th of *April*. May 24th.

On Sunday I went in Mr. PRIOR's Coach and six Horses, with all his Equipage, to the *Maison de Rambouillet*, to pay his Compliment to

to Mr. *Goslinge* and *de Buis*, Ambassadors from the States, it being the Day of their Entry.

Mr. *Barton* was dispatched at Nine at Night to *England*.

June 5th. Gave a Passport to ——— *Constantin, Jacques Gardin, Jacques Rabaste, Jean Pontois, Pierre Cordy, Antoine Rabaste, Jacques Nicou, Pierre Queripet, tous de l'Isle de Jersey, et Sujets de sa Majesté, &c.* They were cast away *au travers du Cape de Gate*, going to *Alicant* about *a la Coste d'Espagne, &c.*

June 6th. Gave a Passport to *John Laas* born in *Petty-France, Westminster*, Mariner, who was cast away in the Ship *May-Flower*, Captain *Norton* Commander, in the Island of *Scilly*. He produced a Passport from *Tho. Chamberlaine*, Consul at *Messina*, dated the 14th of *January, 1714*.

June 13th. Mr. *Dagley* the Messenger was dispatched this Day about Five in the Afternoon.

June 15th. Gave a Passport to Captain *James Smith* and his Servant, a Negroe, to go to *London*. He was naturalized at *Antegoa*, in 1699. The Enrolment was made the 30th of *August* the same Year. Signed *Thomas Nichols* Secretary.

July 25th. *Reijnier Beukers*, of the Town of *Utrecht*, desiring Mr. PRIOR's Passport to go to *London*, and producing one from M. *de Buys*, the Dutch Ambassador, signed and dated at *Paris* the 8th of *June, 1714*. Mr. PRIOR was thereupon pleased to give him his Passport accordingly.

Aug. 11th. Gave a Passport to *Daniel Dounel*, aged thirty Years, who came from *Ireland* in *January* last, to go to *Montpelier* to study *Physic*; but falling ill whilst he was in *France*,
he

he was obliged to return to his own Country for the Recovery of his Health. — *Passer a Havre, et de la en Irland.*

This Passport was given upon Sir *Richard's* Certificate, inclosed in a Letter to me of the 11th Instant.

The Lord *Peterborough* went this Morning *Aug. 14th.* to *England.*

Mr. PRIOR had an Audience of the King, *Aug. 20th.* wherein, among other Things, he announced the Death of her Majesty.

The Queen died on *Sunday* Morning at *Kensington*, a little after Seven of the Clock, in the fiftieth Year of her Age, and the 13th of her Reign, 1714.

Barton was dispatched to the King at *Han-* *Aug. 20th.* *over,* with a Letter from Mr. PRIOR.

Beekles the Messenger arrived with Letters *Aug. 21st.* from Lord *Bolingbroke.*

Gave a Passport to *Walter Hayley*, who *Aug. 24th.* came from *England* by Order of the Lord *Burlington*, with two *Irish* Wolf-Dogs and a Bitch, for *M. de la Fayl*, Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to the King of *France.*

Dispatched Mr. *Dagley* to *England*, with *Aug. 23d.* Letters for Lord *Bolingbroke*, about Two in the Afternoon.

Gave a Passport to *Thomas Pordrie*, *Jean Aug. 29th.* *Lateur*, *Charles Vivien*, *Gilles Cobie*, *Jean Latterre*, *Charles Bingote*, *Denis Goron*, *Gilles Nichol*, *Pierre Bargnet*, *Antoine Rastel*, *Jacques Wilson*, et *Thomas Croquert*; all belonging to *Southampton*. They were cast away in the Ship *Mermaid*, near the Isles of *Gnores*, in the *Streights*. She belonged to *Southampton*, was loaded

loaded there with dry Fish, and bound to
Leghorn, Captain *Wilson* Commander.

Seb. 4th.

Mr. *Barton* arrived her about Seven in the Evening from *Hanover*, with Letters from His Majesty.

Oct. 23d.

1714.

Mr. PRIOR presented a Memorial, requiring that the Canal and the new Works at *Mardyke* should be demolished.

End of the Journal.

The Earl
of *Stairs*
succeeds
Mr. PRI-
OR.

The next Day after Mr. PRIOR had presented the Memorial above-mentioned, the Earl of *Stairs* was appointed to go and succeed him at the Court of *France*. His Lordship went over, but did not take upon him the Title of Ambassador till some time after, on Account of the Works erected at *Mardyke*, and some other Differences between the two Courts. We find however, from what was observed concerning the Payment of his Arrears, that Mr. PRIOR had not the Character of a public Minister longer than the first of *December* this Year : About which Time, in all Appearance, Lord *Stairs* took Possession of all his Papers that were then to be found : There being no Question but he had, before this, secured those that might have injured himself, or any of his Friends. For the violent Proceedings of the new Ministry, against all who had any Concern in the late Negotiations, were sufficient to put him on his Guard, and make him expect the Storm that soon after followed.

Mr.

Mr. PRIOR's Negotiations. 413

Mr. PRIOR seems to have laboured under some Difficulties, even before the Queen's Death, on Account of the ill Payment of his Salary: And after the late King's Accession, he made such Representations on that Head, as procured the following Letter from his old Collegue the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, who succeeded the Earl of *Oxford* in the Place of Lord Treasurer.

To Mr. PRIOR at Paris.

October 4th, 1714.

S I R,

‘ T H O’ I have been silent, I have never neglected your Concerns. When my Lord *Oxford* quitted the Staff, he had ordered some Money for you, and several others, to the Value of sixty or seventy thousand Pound. Those who were to succeed him, got Her Majesty before her Illness, to defer the giving out, or satisfying those Orders, till they should be further considered. After her Majesty’s Death, I could issue no Money of that Nature, without a Sign Manual from the Lords Justices, who reasonably declined any Distribution of Money, but what directly tended to the preserving the Peace in *Britain*.

‘ Since His Majesty’s Arrival, I have several Times mentioned to him the Difficulties and Hardships you lie under. He seems very justly and favourably to enter into them; but as your Arrears are a Part of Her late

Mr. PRIOR applies for the Payment of his Arrears.

Duke of *Shrewsbury* to Mr. PRIOR.

' late Majesty's Debts, and they very confi-
 ' derable ; tho' I have good Reason to believe
 ' what was due to the Queen at Her De-
 ' mise, will more than pay that Debt ; yet
 ' the King is desirous to see a State of that
 ' Matter before he begins to pay ; which could
 ' not be done immediately ; and is, I think,
 ' the only Cause which delays the Dispatch of
 ' your Affair. I am so sensible of the Diffi-
 ' culties you lie under upon this Account,
 ' that if I had power to remedy them, they
 ' should soon be removed : And I make no
 ' doubt but when His Majesty has gone thro'
 ' these Forms he has prescribed himself, Jus-
 ' tice will be done you.'

The Treasury being again new-modelled,
 and Lord *Halifax*, another old Friend of Mr.
 PRIOR's, appointed first Commissioner, Mr.
 PRIOR was obliged to make fresh Applica-
 tion for the Payment of what was due to him,
 that he might be enabled to return home with
 Honour. None of his Letters on this Occasion
 are to be found among his Papers ; but in a
 Letter from Lord *Halifax* to him, dated *De-*
cember the 2d, 1714, is the following Passage.

Lord *Hali-*
fax to Mr.
 PRIOR.

' I read your Letter to the King, and did
 ' not omit doing you all the Good I could. The
 ' King has ordered you should be paid the Al-
 ' lowance of a Plenipotentiary from the first
 ' of *August* to the first of *December*, together
 ' with a Bill of Extraordinaries, amounting
 ' in the Whole to 1176 Pounds. And the Bills
 ' that were due in the Queen's Time, will be
 ' paid in Course, out of the Queen's Arrears.'

But the Ministry were in no haste to make Mr. PRIOR easy, since it appears that he was not so on the 7th of *February*, 1714-15, when he received two Letters on the same Subject, one from Mr. Secretary *Stanhope*, and the other from the Earl of *Halifax*. In the Secretary's were the following Words.

' I represented to his Majesty in Council, Secretary
' that it would be impossible for you to return *Stanhope to*
' home, unless you were enabled to pay your Mr. PRI-
' Debts: Upon which his Majesty has been OR.
' pleased to direct, that your Demands, as
' stated to my Lord *Halifax*, be complied
' with: And accordingly I have signified his
' Majesty's Pleasure thereupon to Lord *Hali-*
' *fax*, who I am persuaded will be pleased
' to serve you.'

His Lordship's Letter runs thus :

' It is with great Pleasure that I can now Lord *Hali-*
' let you know, that upon reading my Lord *fax to*
' *Stair* his Letter, giving an Account of your Mr. PRI-
' Readiness to obey his Majesty's Orders, the OR.
' King has directed us to pay you 2408
' Pounds, for the two Bills of Extraordina-
' ries which you demanded ; which, together
' with what is due to you yet, on your ordi-
' nary Allowance, shall be dispatched with all
' the Favour and Civility we can shew you.
' It will be a great Pleasure to me in particu-
' lar, to hasten your Return from an unhap-
' py and uneasy Station, to your own Coun-
' try and Friends, in which Number I de-
' fire you will rank me. I am, &c.

This

Mr PRI-
OR returns
to Eng-
land, and
is taken
into
Custody.

This Money being remitted, and Mr. PRI-OR having discharged the Demands that were on him at *Paris*, he returned to *Eng-land* in the Month of *March*. Upon his Arrival, on the 25th of that Month, he was taken up by an Order of the House of Commons, and committed into the Hands of a Messenger: And on the first of *April*, he underwent a strict Examination before a Committee of the Privy-Council; the Account of which he thus introduces.

The severest Article against the Inquisition, is, that those who are called before it, are not allowed a Copy of their Indictment, but must themselves divine the Cause why they are imprisoned. I was called before the Secret Committee, and sworn by Mr. Justice *Boscawen* to no particular Indictment; the Committee, on the contrary, assuring me I was not accused of any Crime: The Secretary of State assuring the Committee, that by the King's Order, what I should say should no way affect me. After which they proceeded to a wild Examination, not only of what I had transacted as Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary for three Years before, but of what I might have any ways known or heard of; what the Earl of *Oxford*, the Lord *Bolingbroke*, and others, concern in Her Majesty's Affairs, had acted.'



What passed at Mr. P R I O R 's Examination, before a Committee of the Privy-Council.

Drawn up by HIMSELF.



IN outward Appearance, they were all very civil; set me a Chair equal to the Table where they sat, and next to Secretary *Stanhope*, who had the Books and Papers of the Secretary's Office before him. Mr. *Walpole* the Chairman said little more than mere Compliment. Mr. *Lechmere*, with great Industry, hid from me, and often himself looked into Papers in Folio, unbound, and covered with a blue Sheet. I did not then know what they were, but during the Examination, I perceived it was the Report then printed, and in some few Days after published. He began with an affected Eloquence, that as I had served in a very high Employment, and with very great Applause, the Committee relied upon my Candour and Probity: That as what they asked me was for the King's Service, so what I answered would be for my own Honour. After this some of them began with several vague Questions: What I knew of the Negotiation? How long I had been acquainted with the Abbé *Gaultier*? If the Propositions came first from

E c

France,

France, or if we sent them? And desired me to give them an Account of whatever I could of that whole Matter; which, it seems, they thought I was so ready to do, that some of them took their Pens and Paper, as if I were to begin a Sermon, and they to take short Notes.

I said, That as I had always acted abroad by the Authority of the Crown of *England*, and had, in Obedience to the King's Commands, given up all the Memorials and Papers which related to that Part of the Peace in which I had a Share, I was desirous to answer the Honourable Committee (before whom I understood such Papers were) in every Thing that might help to explain them: That my Books were already before them; and, as I had already written to Mr. Secretary *Stanhope*, those Books must even speak for themselves. The Committee seemed to acquiesce in my Answer. Lord *Con.** whispered the Chairman, and said, No, we will begin with the Money.

The Committee then desired to know what Money I drew from the Treasury in 1711, when I went into *France*. I answered, Two hundred Pounds; and, as I remembered, that was the Sum. I had either Credit from Mr. *Clifford*, on his Correspondent, or from Monsieur *Cantillon*: I could not well remember which, it being now four Years since. Had you these Bills, some of them said, from my Lord Treasurer? I replied, No. They asked me, Was it by his Order? I said, I hoped there was no Occasion for a Reply to that Question. I presumed it would be found, as other Money expended on the like Occasion, by Direction of the Sovereign. I found they were not

pleased with this Answer. *Wal.* said, Will you think a little of the Method in which this Examination is to proceed? And Mr. PRIOR will be pleased in the mean Time to retire a little.

When I was called in again, the same Question was asked me, and the same Answer returned. I added, That I well hoped those Sums, and several others of much greater Importance, were paid: That otherwise, for want of Knowledge in the Crown Laws, I should find myself a Beggar; and from an Hôtel at *Paris*, might spend the rest of my Days in the Counter: And here I addressed myself to Mr. *Stanhope*, as to what I had writ to him concerning my Debts. He said, That nothing of all this concerned me. *P.* I must apply myself to you upon another Head. I must own myself unexperienced in the Method of Parliament; I have no Papers by me; I have no Council; for want of Memory or Judgment I may err; and tho', Gentlemen, I am accused of nothing, I know not but that I may accuse myself through Inadvertency or Mistake.

Here Mr. *Stanhope* rose up, and told the Committee, That he had the King's particular Direction, that whatever I said to them, or they to the House of Commons, should not be of any Prejudice to myself. I took a Sheet of Paper, which lay before me, and wrote this down, as I did what they had already said to me. Here, after they had whispered, and some even separated themselves from the Table to confer in a Corner of the Room, the Chairman told me I might withdraw; which I did, leaving the Notes I had taken upon the Table.

When I was called in again, I found their Civility much abated, and the Battery quite chang-

ed. The most confused Questions were put to me, upon several Heads backward and forward, by *Lech.* and *Bosc.* and *Con.* (the two first of whom I think understood not one Word of what they were saying). *Con.* at length prevailed. Mr. PRIOR, you were sent out that you might have Time to recollect more particularly upon whom you had Credit, when my Lord of *Oxford* sent you into *France.* *P.* I have great Respect to the Earl of *Oxford*; but he never sent me into *France.* And turning to Mr. Secretary *Stanbope*, who had the Books of the Office of 1711 in his Hand, I said, That as I had the Honour to be sent into *France* by the Queen's especial Appointment and immediate Direction, I presumed the Copy of my Powers were to be found in the Books before him*. He turning to it, Mr. PRIOR, is this the Copy of your Instructions? *P.* I believe it is; but to give the Committee no further Trouble on this Head, I am ready either now, or any other Time, to produce the Original, as I think it may tend to my Service. Being asked of whom I received Money in *France*? I answered, Of Monsieur *Cantillon.* *Bosc.* Was he not a Papist? *P.* Else, Sir, he could not have been a Banker at *Paris*, which he had been for several Years before I knew him. In one Word, he was the common Banker to whom the *English* addressed themselves, and I think *Clifford* of *Amsterdam* was his Correspondent. *Stan.* and *Wal.* I found frowning and nodding at each other, and extremely ashamed at this vile Stuff.

Being sent out, and called in again, I found the Thunder broke out. *Wal.* referred it to *Stan.*

* Vide the Report, Folio 3.

to speak. *Stan.* The Committee are not satisfied with your Behaviour to them. I have already told you, that the Lords above, and the Committee here, have taken notice that they find a constant Correspondence on your Side to Lord Treasurer, but no Answers from him; whereas all your Letters from Lord *Bolingbroke* are entire, and commonly in their right Order. Some of those indeed are missing. The whole Committee echoed the same Thing. *P.* I was told some Hours since, by this Honourable Committee, that I should be asked nothing that might prejudice myself. I am a good deal confused; I have no Council; and with great Respect, I look upon this to be a downright Accusation of myself, as if I should have held any Correspondence I was unwilling to declare. I must refer myself to you in this Point, *Mr. Stanhope.* The Letters that we receive, when abroad, from the Secretaries of State, we keep, copying our Answers to them, both which justify our acting according to our Orders sent us; and I presume it will be found that my Letters, which you have in your own Keeping, answer those written to me by the Secretaries of State under whose Departments I acted; which Letters you have likewise. You have also the Letters I have wrote to the Lord Treasurer in my Books, at least those of them that related to the public Affair, and consequently were worth keeping. I did not, nor could I expect a constant Correspondence from him. What I wrote was for his Information; what Use his Lordship made of that Information, I had reason to presume was for the Queen's Service; and the Answers and Directions to me were to come by the Secretary of State. *Commit.* It is very strange that not above two or three Letters

should appear from my Lord Treasurer. Did he not write more to you? *P.* He writ to me several Times, and I obeyed his Commands intimated to me therein. Those Commands performed, the Letters were of no Use, and I no more kept them, than I did Letters received from other Noblemen, the Duke of *Buckingham*, the Lord *Halifax*, Lord *Harcourt*, then Lord Chancellor, &c. They related no otherwise to the Negotiation, than in commending me, assuring me that he represented my Services to the Queen in a right Light, and wishing a speedy End to the Negotiation, that I might come home to him.

I was sent out again, and recalled; was asked how many Letters I might in all have received from my Lord Treasurer, and what was the Substance of any of them. *P.* As to the Number, I cannot particularly tell: I received a Letter from him sometimes of five, sometimes of ten or twelve Lines, ordering me to pay Sums of Money to Persons who had the Queen's Pension, and were then in *France*, or recommending some of his particular Friends to my Acquaintance, or, which I thought much better, telling me he had ordered the Payment of my Bills; but I might very safely affirm, that I had no Letter that could possibly concern the Committee, or any body else. I have one Letter that as Lord Treasurer he writ to me, which related to the Payment of the Dowry of King *James's* Queen *Mary*; a Thing publickly transacted, and known here in *England*: But as no Progress was made in that Affair during my Stay in *France*, and that it did not belong to the Negotiation of the Peace, I had not indeed given up that Letter, but, as I thought, I could find it, or the Copy of it, if it should have been thought of any Use.

Use. In the mean time, I thought proper, in case any Thing had been done in that Matter, to keep that Letter for my own Justification ; as indeed it would have been my Order. *Bosc.* Sir, you say you do not know how many Letters you had ; Might you have ten ? *P.* I believe I might. *Bosc.* Might you have fourteen ? *P.* I believe I might. *Bosc.* Might you have sixteen ? *P.* Indeed, Mr. *Bosc.* I have told you that I cannot answer you to any indefinite Number. It was still urged with great Vehemence, that I kept a constant Correspondence with my Lord Treasurer. *P.* I am very far from denying it ; but he did not keep a constant Correspondence with me. It was my Duty to write to him, and he was to make what Use he pleased of my Letters. I complained sometimes of the Objections I met with at the Court of *France* in the Execution of my Orders ; and was very glad when by the Letters from the Secretary of State, I found my Difficulty made easier : But, Gentlemen, since we are upon this Subject, throughout the whole Course of my Letters to my Lord Treasurer, and even in those I wrote to the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, after his Grace's Return both in *England* and *Ireland*, I still complained that my Lord Treasurer did not write to me. And here indeed, being very much teized and vexed, my Lord *Con.* raving and threatening that these Letters must be produced ; I said, If there be such Letters in the World, that contain the Secrets of the Negotiation written by my Lord Treasurer, it might be very well presumed his Lordship kept Copies of them, and he must produce them : For, said I, by the eternal God I know of no such Letters ; and you know, my Lord, that your Countryman is no very exact

Correspondent. This I said, having known that my Lord *Con.* had troubled great Men, if not my Lord Treasurer particularly, with Letters, who had never taken Care to answer him. I grant this was very foolishly said ; for one should never provoke a Hedge-Hog. *Con.* breaking out into a great Passion, This is imposing upon the Committee ! *P.* Imposing, my Lord, is a very hard Word. He lifted up his Voice in Anger, and was going on : But *Stan.* yet louder than he, swore, that he could produce every individual Scrip of Paper that had been written to him by any Man alive, or that he had written to any Man during his being a Minister abroad. *P.* Mr. *Stanhope*, I am sorry I cannot do the like ; if it be so, you are the most careful Minister that ever yet were sent abroad. They proceeded in asking me to give an Account of what, they said, I must needs know of the Meeting of the Lords at my House with *Mesnager* and *Gaultier*. I had already heard, that they had consulted their Friends of the Law upon that Point, and had determined to fix upon that Meeting, wherein the Preliminaries were signed, as an Accusation of Treason. How justly I leave to the Judgment of all disinterested and honest Men ; since first, in the Nature of the Thing, it is impossible for any two Nations in War to come ever to an Accommodation, or begin any Plan, upon which a future Peace may be founded, without some Overture and Intervention of this Kind. All Treaties, from that of *Vervens* down to this Day, have been thus mediated.. *Calieres* was in *Holland*, and discoursed and conferred privately with Monsieur *Dyckvelt*, on the Part of the States, above two Years before he took a public Character, and signed the Treaty of *Ryswick*.
 Monsieur

Monfieur *de Torcy* was publickly in *Holland*, 1709, conferred with the Penfioner, and the Deputies of the States ; and our own Plenipotentiaries the Duke of *Marlborough* and Lord *Townfend*, reported from thofe Deputies to Her Majefty, what the *French* Minifter either propofed or granted. *Mefnager* had as full Powers as *France* could give, had owned the Queen's Authority, and feen her Perfon ; and had, by her Majefty's Directions, feveral Times conferred with the Lords of a Committee of Cabinet ; all the World feeing the Man, and knowing the Fact : So that any Meeting after this could not be fecret, dangerous, or treafonable. Mr. *St. John*'s Letter of the 25th *September*, 1711, to Her Majefty, informs Her immediately of this Meeting, and Her Majefty approves of what is there done, by her efpecial Warrant for figning the Preliminaries, containing The Demands made by her Order*.

It may be obferved that Mr. *St. John* writes to the Queen thus,

“ The Committee of Council met this Morning
 “ at the *Cockpit*, and directed the Earl of *Dart-*
 “ *mouth* and myfelf to confer with Monfieur *Mef-*
 “ *nager* : We faw him accordingly this Evening,
 “ at Mr. PRIOR's Houfe, where my Lord Trea-
 “ furer and Lord Chamberlain were likewise pre-
 “ fent.” The Treafon therefore, if there were
 any, was committed in the Morning by the Com-
 mittee of Council, and at the *Cockpit*, and not at
 Mr. PRIOR's Houfe in the Evening. It may pro-
 perly here be added, the Queen had figned a
 Warrant the 17th of *September*, 1711, to the

* Appendix to the Report, Page 8.

Lord Keeper, for full Powers*; in which my Lord *Harcourt* then Lord Chancellor, the Earl of *Oxford* Lord Treasurer, the Duke of *Buckingham* President of the Council, the Bishop of *Bristol* Lord Privy Seal, the Duke of *Shrewsbury* Lord Chamberlain, the Earl *Poulett* Lord Steward of the Household, and the Earl of *Dartmouth* and Mr. *St. John* Secretaries of State, and MATTHEW PRIOR Esq; were nominated and empowered to meet with the *Sieur Mesnager*, provided with sufficient Authority to settle an eventual or conditional Convention between Her Majesty and the most Christian King; and that this Warrant was not made use of, for Reasons given, being very natural, because they were Offers only on the *French* Side, and did not oblige Her Majesty to any Thing: So they were only signed *Mesnager*, and *Dartmouth* and *St. John* are only Witnesses that these Articles are to be looked upon as Conditions which his most Christian Majesty agrees to grant, and which are afterwards to be reduced into Form, and explained to the common Satisfaction of *Great Britain* and *France*. Tho' this Procedure will, without doubt, hereafter appear consonant to common Sense, conducive to the Safety and Good of *Great Britain*, and justifiable by the universal Custom and Law of Nations, *Nunc non erat his locus*. I said, Monsieur *Mesnager* had often been at my House; that the Secretary of State had seen him there; that I had ate and drank, and been abroad with him several Times. They took great hold of this. *Bosc.* expressed himself with great Joy, This is more than we knew before! And from thence they ran wildly back, When I knew

* Appendix to the Report, p. 7.

Gaultier ? Where I had been with *Mefnager* ? I answered to this in as general Terms as I could, The Chairman perceived that they would lose their Point in this Multiplicity of Questions, and, checking their Speed, restrained it to this one Demand. *Chairm.* What Lords were present at your House at the Meeting when the preliminary Articles were talked of or signed ? I answer'd, The two Secretaries of State ; for it is certain they were so, their Names appearing in the Instrument. *Chairm.* Was my Lord of *Oxford* there ? *P.* I cannot recollect it : One of the Lords were absent ; whether the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, or the Earl of *Oxford*, I cannot tell. In all Sincerity and Honour this is Truth, They grew extremely anger'd upon it, and sent me out to recollect if both these Lords were not present.

I came in, and assured them again, That as well as I could remember a Transaction, of which I took no Notes, and which was now above 3 Years past, and of which I was so far from expecting to be called to any Account, that I thought it was an Honour to me, I could not determine which of the two were absent. I said again, That this was Fact, that I do not remember it : I have only an Idea that one of them was absent. The Answer indeed had this Effect, that it was the same Thing as if they were both absent, since they could not determine which of them was present. But upon this Meeting no less Accusation than an Article of High Treason was to be founded. Was any thing more difficult ever put upon a Man, than to endeavour to extort an Evidence from me, in order to bring those to the Scaffold who were Friends and Patrons, under whose Orders formerly, and with whom jointly
now,

now, I had the Honour to act, by the Queen's Directions, and in a Matter not only innocent, but laudable! Or could any thing be more absurd, or more inhuman, than to propose to me a Question, by the answering of which I might (according to them) prove myself a Traytor! Since, as I had heard, every Man who is a Partner, is a Principal in Treason: And notwithstanding their solemn Promise that nothing which I could say should hurt myself, I had no Reason to trust them; for they violated that Promise about five Hours after (as I shall say anon.) However, I owned I was there present. Whether this was wisely done or no, I leave to my Friends to determine.

From my being taken up by Order of the House of Commons, this Examination was just a Week. They now, after I had been turned out, and returned again, interrogated me: If since my being taken into Custody, I had not seen my Lord of *Oxford*, or any of his Relations? I said, I had seen my Lord of *Oxford* the last *Sunday* at Mr. *Thomas Harley's* House; and was going on to explain that Mr. *Thomas Harley* and I, who were taken up at the same Time, (living within three Doors of each other) commonly dined together at one or the other of our Houses, our respective Messengers guarding us. That on *Sunday* going to dine with Mr. *Harley*, I saw my Lord of *Oxford* at the Stair-head, going out; that I asked him if he dined with us: He told me, he was to dine in better Company: That this was all that passed between us; the Messenger at the Bottom of the Stairs heard every Word I said to him. As I was telling this, they answered it was sufficient, I had seen my Lord of *Oxford*, and his near Relation; which was the Question asked.

I here was ordered to retire, and when I was called in again, the Chairman, from amongst many Books and Papers which he had before him, (and the Secretary of State had on the other Side as many ; and I perceived many of them were my own) the Chairman, I say, abruptly enough threw one Half-Sheet of the large Demy Paper, written very foul, and razed in several Places, which, indeed, when he gave into my Hand, I hardly knew what it was, so far as to give any reasonable Account of it, it being without Date or Title, and, as I say, very imperfect as to the very Words and Stile. He asked me drily, and without any other previous Word, If I knew that Hand? *P.* There are two Hands in it, one is very like the Hand I write when first I make any Brouillon. *One or two of the Committee.* Sir, What do you mean by a Brouillon? *P.* When I write any thing at first only for my own Memory, as to what I would draw up after in a more perfect Manner. I perused this Piece of Paper, and upon a little Reflection, directing myself to Mr. Stanhope, said, I believed this Paper contained some Notes upon a Letter I received from his Predecessor my Lord Bolingbroke. He was apprised of this before ; for he readily turned to the Letter which was registred in the Office-Book. I added, that I thought there were some Notes I had taken in the *French* Language, to enable me to speak more particularly to Monsieur de Torcy of the Matters mentioned in the said Secretary's Letter. As that Letter was written four Years before, and I was not in Possession of my own Letters, the Secretary himself and the Committee could best inform themselves of the Substance thereof. There was written, *My Lord, Tr. ne doute point que la*
Cour

Cour de France n' y trouve de remede. Now whatever Lord that might mean, they had already printed it my Lord Treasurer *; and in so doing had given that Sentence the wrongest Construction imaginable, as proving that my Lord Treasurer would give up *Tournay* to *France*; whereas the whole Hint was meant to renew to the Ministers at that Court, that *Tournay* was to be given to the Allies; and it was to keep the Court of *France* from endeavouring to hope the contrary. As what was in this Brouillon was sometimes an Abridgment, and sometimes a verbal Translation of my Lord *Bolingbroke's* Letter, which Mr. *Stanhope* still held close, and as I read the *French* into *English*, I asked him if the same Sense was in the Letter. He did not deny it. *Con.* grew extremely angry, and on a sudden broke out into some Expressions which neither he should have utter'd, nor will I repeat; and so I was ordered to withdraw again; which was into the next Room, where not only a Messenger of the House of Commons, but a Door-Keeper of the Secretary's Office, waited all Day, and were still ready to receive me.

Being called in again, I was interrogated without Method or Connection, as any Member of the Committee pleased, and indeed with Confusion and Disorder enough among themselves; for they sometimes stopped each other's Question, and proposed new ones of their own. At last it came to this. *Chairm.* Mr. PRIOR, we cannot doubt but that you are apprised of the whole Affair of *Tournay*? Did my Lord ever write about *Tournay*? *P.* I cannot readily answer, as not understanding the Force of the Question: I believe

* Vide the Report, Page 34.

my Lord Treasurer may have writ to me concerning *Tournay* at the Beginning of the Negotiation: I am sure he has spoke to me about *Tournay*: I may be mistaken as to the Time; but I think in 1711 the *French* insisted upon their having *Tournay*: But I very well remember,* that the Queen's Instructions to Her Ambassadors for the general Peace, were positive that the *Dutch* should have it: I understood the Negotiation to continue always upon that Foot. I added, that as the Affair of the Barrier was transacted at *Utrecht*, I had nothing in my Instructions relating to that whole Matter, otherwise than as it might relate in general to the Peace. What I have of the whole Negotiation is before you. Here *Wal.* and *Stan.* grew mightily perplexed; one in a fullen, and t'other in an unbounded Passion. *Con.* raved out-right. I may justly protest that I could not conceive the Cause of this Disorder; for I did not know that they had already founded their High Treason upon the Articles of *Tournay*, against my Lord Treasurer; nor can I since comprehend why they did. To shew the Justice, as well as the good Judgment of these Men, it must certainly appear not only extravagant, but ridiculous to all who think righter than the Committee, that is, to all Men living, that an Article of High Treason should be founded against an *English* Minister upon *Tournay*, which was not given up to the *French*, and no Mention ever made of *Lisle*, which actually was given up. This by the way. It may be further observed, that at that Time not one third Part of the Committee themselves did know upon what

* Vide Answer to the Memorial, dated Nov. 18, 1711. Append. to the Report, Page 14. the Queen's Instructions to Her Plenipotentiaries, *ibid.* Page 20.

Point the Accusations either against the Earl of *Oxford*, or any Man else, were to be grounded ; several of them having since told me themselves, that they never either drew up or read the Report ; but that those Things came to them, as they merrily expressed it, ready cut and dried.

But to return to my Journal ; this various and incoherent Manner of Examination having now lasted above nine Hours. Two of my Masters (by the way) *Mr. Onslow* and *Mr. Erle*, had left the Committee almost at the Beginning of the Day ; for to give them their Due, they asked me very few Questions while there, and by going away seemed ashamed of the Proceeding : And now *Wal.* himself grew weary of it, and was going, but hindered, and, as it were, kept in the Chair by *Mr. Stan.* who said openly, they could not go on without the Chairman. I was ordered to withdraw, and during about half an Hour's Recess into the next Room, or rather Passage, as the Door was by chance opened, I heard them extremely warm and loud with one another. Whilst I was in this little Room, in which the Messenger under whose Custody I was, and a Door-Keeper of the Secretary's Office, as I have already said, were waiting, *Con.* came out by a Back-Way, as *Pos.* did by the Fore-Door. In this Room was a Trunk, and in it several Papers and Memorials, to which the Committee had Recourse during the Examination. The Trunk was open, and I could not but perceive by the Indorsements that many of the Papers were my own. *Con.* whispered the Officers to take care that I should not come nigh the Trunk, and really looked on me more like a Fury than a Man ; tho' certainly I had all the Right imaginable to see every Paper that related to me
in

in my Examination, which was pretended to be made upon no other Foot, than that the King should be informed of what I had done for his Service in the Negotiation of the Peace; and if the Committee themselves had really a Mind to be apprized of the Truth as to Fact, the hindering a Man whom they intended should become an Evidence from seeing his own Papers, was but an ill Method towards his giving them a clearer Intelligence.

I was now called in for the last Time, and I found that they had collected several Heads of what they thought proper I should set my Hand to. I read them, and made some Objections thereunto, but to no Purpose. I said, that to many Questions I had not, nor could, answer in the positive Manner that was there set down: That as to divers Facts, I could not take Things upon my Memory: That as to others, I had indeed said I believed, I thought, I had heard, or understood they were so: That the Omission of these Words made me say positively, and as an Evidence, what I should not be able to maintain, having only answer'd them as my Memory served me, and as much as I knew of the Heads upon which I had been interrogated; knowing that they themselves had blamed my Answers, for being very imperfect; and I had more than once told them, I was sorry I could not answer them more fully. I objected against these Words: *He confesses that since his Confinement he has conversed with the Earl of Oxford, and his nearest Relations.* I did not, I said, confess. Confession supposes a Crime: I was told, I was accused of none. I said I had seen the Earl of Oxford at Mr. Thomas Harley's; and as I was going to tell the Thing again,

F f

Jesus!

Jesus! said *Con.* how perjur'd is this Man? *P.* My Lord, have a care of——. *Con.* No, Sir, 'tis you that must have a care. Seeing now the Face of the Committee against me, knowing and presuming that if ever the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, the Earl of *Oxford*, or Lord *Bolingbroke* himself, should be brought to Trial, I must besure before the Lords have an Opportunity of explaining what I had said, and declaring what Usage I had found from the Committee, I signed the Paper. I cannot here omit a ridiculous Instance of my *Middlesex* Justice's Skill in the Law: He was just going to set his Name on the Left Hand of the Paper, where I was to have set mine; and if he had not been timely cautioned by the Chairman, it would have been the Deposition of *Hugh Boscawen*, *jurat. coram me, Matt. Prior.*

When I had thus signed the Paper, the Chairman told me, that the Committee were not at all satisfied with my Behaviour, nor could give such an Account of it to the House that might merit their Favour in my Behalf: That at present they thought fit to lay me under a stricter Confinement than that of my own House. Here *Bosc.* played the Moralist, and *Con.* the Christian; but both very awkwardly. *Bosc.* said, that he had often heard Mr. *Stepney* (who was a wise Man) and our old Friend, repeat this Proverb, *Near is my Shirt, but nearer my Skin*; and told me, if I had remembered that Saying, and acted according to it, it would have been better for me. And *Con.* said, he had known me a long Time, and was heartily sorry for my Condition; but all this proceeded from my own Fault. Now this kind Commiseration did not last above a Minute; for the Messenger to whose House they intended to confine

fine me, being called, *Con.* * asked him if his House were secured by Bolts and Bars. The Messenger †, who is by Birth a Gentleman, and a very good-natur'd Man, was astonish'd at the Question ; and answered, that he never had any in his Custody but Parliament Prisoners, (as he expressed it) and there were neither Bolts nor Bars in his House. At which *Con.* very angrily said, Sir, you must secure this Prisoner ; it is for the Safety of the Nation ; if he escapes, you shall answer for it. And now I met with another Hardship, which indeed I could not have expected, as I had all Day taken Notes of the Heads of their Examination, and my Answers, and particularly that Mr. *Stanhope* had, by His Majesty's Order, informed the Committee, that from whatever I should say in this Examination, nothing should or ought to redound to my own Prejudice : Nor indeed could it be imagined I should answer upon any other Foot ; for without the King's Consent, I doubt if I ought at all to have answered to the Committee.

M. P.

These Proceedings in the Committee of Council, and the ill Usage he thought he had met with in the Report of the *Secret Committee* of the House of Commons, occasioned Mr. PRIOR to undertake a Defence of Himself and the late Ministry, against the Charge attempted to be maintained in the said Report. This Defence, as far as he had finish'd it, with References to the Report itself, is here exactly printed from his own Papers.

* Lord *Coningsby*'s Behaviour during this Examination, seems to have been the Ground of that Resentment express'd against him by Mr. PRIOR in his Ballads of *Down-Hall*, and the *Viceroy*; the first of which is in the Third Volume of his former Works, and the other in the Second of these posthumous Volumes.

† Mr. *Hollingshead*.



Mr. PRIOR's Answer to the Report of the Committee of Secrefy, appointed by Order of the House of Commons to examine feveral Books and Papers laid before the House, relating to the late Negotiations of Peace and Commerce.



THE * Committee report to the Houfe, that they have examined feveral Papers and Books relating to the late Negotiations of Peace and Commerce; To the Demolition of *Dunkirk*; To the Affiento Contract; To the Affair of the *Catalans*, and Secret Negotiations relating to the Pretender.

† They begin with the Negotiations of Peace. The intended Demolition of *Dunkirk*, as it is artificially called, as likewise the Affiento, and the Affair of the *Catalans*, is referred to another Opportunity, *ad Græcas Calendas*: And as to any Correspondence proved between the Miniftry and the Pretender, another Time, and another Report may bring it to Light: But as to what is hinted of this Kind, you hear no Word of it till Page the 52d; and what is there faid evinces quite the contrary to the Promise made in the very first Page.

* June the 9th, 1715. † Page i.

The first Thing they express, is, The Surprise they are in to find several Books and Papers wanting. To find them wanting is extreme good *English*; but the Sense this Phrase must bear, is, That they sought for what they could not find. As for Books, I know not what they could mean: I presume the ordinary Letters and Entries, relating to the Negotiation, as they were left, might consequently be found in the Offices of the Secretaries of State. Lord *Bolingbroke* had so little Time to suppress or take away any Papers, that, as I have heard say, many of his private Correspondencies were seized. The Earl of *Strafford's* Papers were delivered up immediately upon his Arrival in *England*; as Mr. PRIOR's * were to the Earl of *Stairs* at *Paris*. They were all put into the Hands of a Secretary of State; but from thence indeed they were severally given to Persons who were to read them, and make Extracts out of them: To Persons, I say, who neither by their Profession or Knowledge in the World, could be thought competent Judges of them. But they cannot find; so that as they find least, Men are to be judged more culpable, and the supposed Crime of the Accused increases, as the Accuser knows less of the Matter. Upon this Way of Reasoning, I had rather a Jury should bring me in Guilty of High-Treason, than return it *Ignoramus*.

As to Books collected and bound together, relating to the Pretender and his Interest, I presume they could not expect to find such in the Office:

* By Mr. PRIOR's speaking of himself in the third Person, it seems as if he had designed this Defence for an anonymous Publication.

I mean by this, that they could mean just nothing.

The first material Paper found, is named The first Propositions of *France*, signed by Monsieur *de Torcy*. This Paper is transmitted by Mr. *St. John* to my Lord *Raby* at the *Hague*. There is but † five Days between the Queen's receiving these Propositions, and her communicating them to her Allies : And in this Proposition it is remarkable, that the Barrier in the *Low Countries* was, that this Barrier should be agreeable to *England*, and the good Liking of the *English*. The Preamble indeed is a little untoward : For his most Christian Majesty says, That those who governed the Republic of *Holland* had industriously rendered the Negotiations fruitless, since the Separation of the Conference at *Gertruydenburg*. Her Majesty takes notice to her Minister, That in them there is an Air of Complaisance shewn to them in *England*. Why should there not be such ? The Effusion of very much *British* Blood ; the vast Expence of a consuming War unequally carried on, and at last become impracticable, as the Parliament expressed it some time after, the very Dignity of the Crown, might require such Complaisance. The *Dutch* could not be offended at it, nor do otherwise than thank Her Majesty for this Communication ; * and they do acknowledge the Queen's Goodness upon this Occasion. They declare themselves weary of the War, which, they say, they endeavour to conceal from the Enemy. But how far they did conceal it, or how they acted with her Majesty reciprocally, I shall touch in the Sequel of these Papers. This being only pre-

† April 22, and 27, 1711.

* May 20th, 26th, 1711.

misfed by the Way, that whereas the Committee do not find any Communication to the States, of any Negotiation carried on for five Months after, let them only look to the seventh Page, where the Report says, That Monsieur *de Torcy* had written in *June* both to the Pensioner and Monsieur *Vander Dussen*, giving an Account that they [the *French*] had begun a Negotiation in *England* : So far was it from being kept a Secret from our Friends in *Holland*, either on our Part or that of *France*.

* The Paper called Mr. PRIOR's Authority is signed *Anne R.* at the Top, and *A. R.* at the Bottom ; not counter-signed. A terrible Accusation from Persons versed in Business, Privy-Councillors, Chancellors, &c. No Powers, from those of the least Agent to the greatest Plenipotentiary, were ever counter-signed ; and I believe these Gentlemen will be of Opinion, that *A. R.* at the Bottom of the Paper, was a better Warrant for Mr. PRIOR's Action, than *Henry St. John's* or *Dartmouth's* could have been.

† The next Thing worth remarking is, That the *English* Ministry determined to carry on a separate Negotiation with *France* : That the Secret should be kept inviolably till allowed to be divulged by the Consent of both Parties. How this was to be understood, I have already shewn, the Queen, as well as Monsieur *de Torcy*, having communicated it to *Holland*. This Keeping the Secret, is a Form used in every Treaty that ever was made, and means that it should be communicated to as few as may be. But the Queen has here broke her Word with *France*. Is this a

Fault? If she had kept it, would not that have been yet a greater? But that any Negotiation of this Kind, in which so many Princes and States are jointly concerned, could possibly be carried on without some Restriction of this Kind, will be evident from what I shall anon observe; from what has been always practised by all Nations engaged in Alliance of War; from what the Emperor and the *Dutch*, the Chief of our Allies, have done in relation to us and each other, during this and the precedent War; and from what we have reciprocally done towards them under the Ministry of these Men, who stand ready now to complain and impeach.

At the Beginning of the Report, the Committee said, they could not find that the *Dutch* were ever acting privately with *France*. A strange I——in Men of their Penetration. Some of them sure must have known that the States have never desisted, even since their breaking off the Conferences at *Gertruydenburg* and the *Hague*, to correspond with *France*. They have their Agents all the while out. *Leers*, under a Pretence of trafficking Books, wrote constantly to *Paris*, and *Petticum* was actually negotiating with that Crown. Mr. PRIOR says, (I do not know if he lyes or not) that at his Arrival at *Fontainbleau* at the Beginning of *August*, 1711, he saw three Letters writ from Monsieur *de Petticum* to Monsieur *de Torcy*, written, as *Petticum* says, by the Order of the Pensionary himself. He invites Mr. *de Torcy* to renew the Conferences so unhappily broke off with *Holland*. He says, he is ready to come to *Paris*; or to meet any Person authorized by *France*, at *Amiens*, or elsewhere. He promises it shall be more advantageous to *France* to be-
gin

gin with *Holland* separately : That his most Christian Majesty has only to propose his own Terms, and the States shall agree to them. He adds, too truly indeed, that the intestine Divisions in *England*, will render any Negotiation with us impracticable ; for that one Party will certainly oppose what the other would consent to, how just or reasonable soever. He explains that one of our Parties has a very great Interest in *Holland* : He names them as the Persons most concerned in our Banks and Stocks here ; moneyed Men, not well affected to the Ministry here at home, who are rather inclined to a Land Interest. He insinuates the Emperor's Desire of continuing the War. So evident it is, that there was an Endeavour to wrest the Negotiation out of the Queen's Hand, notwithstanding what is asserted in the Report*. This I take to be the great and true Reason, why the Negotiation did not advance between *April* and *August* ; and indeed, as we had a great Party here, so were there some Ministers in *France* too visibly interested in the *Dutch* Faction. I do not speak it to their Reproach ; for they thought it more for the Interest of their Country, that a Republic, whom they might in Time crush, should be now favoured, rather than that a Monarchy, whom they always dreaded, should be secured and advantaged.

Amongst other Arguments, this was one at that Time made Use of, That *Great Britain*, as Matters then stood, could not begin to treat, because we could not own King PHILIP : Whereas the *Dutch* had always used such Civility to that Prince, that it would be more easy and practica-

ble for them to begin ; upon which we could not refuse to follow. These Things indeed ought to have been forgotten, and obliterated in the Peace ; but the Opposers of it make it necessary, even for the Safety and Honour of the Persons concerned in it, that they should be mentioned. Far from designing therein to hurt any Man, and not saying any Thing hard upon this Subject, I proceed to the 4th Page, the Grounds upon which the whole Report is founded ; viz. a supposed Breach of the Grand Alliance on our Side.

Neutri partium fas sit de pace cum hoste tractare nisi conjunctim. — The Accusation is, That we treated separately, in Violation of the Grand Alliance ; and it is immediately observed, that the Preliminaries are signed before any Thing had been finally concluded for the Security of *Great Britain*. How then as yet is this Article violated ? Or what Reason has any Ally to take it ill ? But if any Thing had been concluded for the Security of *Great Britain*, would this have extenuated the Offence ? Not in the least. We ought not, it seems, to have made any such Security. The Argument turns both Ways ; and if the Ministers did or did not stipulate for the Advantage of their Country, they are equally culpable.

But if before any Treaty begun, and in order to oblige Her Majesty to hear only what the Enemy desired to begin to treat upon, as well for Herself, as for Her Allies, the Enemy offers any Thing, which when finally concluded, may be for the Security of *Great Britain* ; shall an *English* Ministry be accused either for hearing what the Enemy would treat upon, or for turning the Beginning of this Treaty to the Advantage, or at least to the Security. (for this seems to be

be the Objection) of their Country, at the same Time that they hear all those Advantages proposed in Favour of the Allies, that the Queen is obliged by any Stipulation whatsoever to procure for them: Tho' the Cause were tried at *Frankfort* or *Amsterdam*, the Ministry must be cleared upon this Point? But in *Westminster-Hall*, I will not doubt but that such an Endeavour will be adjudged just, honest, laudable, and stand recorded in the Hearts of all true *Britons*, to the lasting Honour of the Persons concerned in it. Let us consider the Force of this terrible Article. Neither Party shall treat, *i. e.* make a Treaty, without the Consent of the other. Shall therefore neither Party hear if the Enemy has a Desire to treat at all; and in such a Case, shall neither Party have Power to communicate to his Ally what the Enemy proposes, or at what Place or Time the Delegates of all Parties may meet together to confer? Is the Article to be restrained to this Sense? No Trumpet then can ever be sent, no Captive redeemed, or Hostage exchanged, without the previous Consent of the whole Alliance: Thousands and ten Thousands must have perished during this long War in Prison, unhappily added to those Slain in the Field. In one Word, if we would ever have Peace, we must either send to *France*, or *France* must send to us. The Sea is the Frontier between the two Kingdoms, and it is impossible by any other Means for each Nation to know the immediate Sentiments of the other; or else we must be contented to let the Enemy apply to us, and we reciprocally to him, by the Intercourse and Mediation of some third Party. What great Disadvantage the Crown and People of *Great Britain* have received from this last Method,

thod, and to what dreadful Precipices we were driven by pursuing it, is evident to any Man who reads the Preliminary Engagements, and Treaties entered upon for six Years past ; and if the Accusation against the late Ministry comes originally from the other Side of the Water, it is a previous Declaration in Favour of the Persons concerned. It objects to them only, that would avoid those apparent Inconveniences, in which too manifestly their Country had suffered much, and is likely still to suffer more by this mediate and second-hand Way of Treating : And may we not as well make our Bargain, as leave it to be made by our Neighbours, how cordially soever they might manage for us ? Are we obliged to trust our Allies in Negotiations of the greatest Consequence, and where God knows we had the deepest Concern ; and shall those Allies not trust us ? A Child would be ashamed of the Absurdity of such Reasoning.

The Article, I will yet take it for granted, is not only a Restriction upon us, but it is equally obligatory to all the Allies ; and yet the People only named as injured by us, are the *Dutch* ; whereas every Prince and State concerned in the Alliance, have the same Reason of Complaint. Now it will easily be granted impracticable, that every Motion or Proposal towards a Peace should be transmitted to all : The *Dutch* therefore have a greater Right in this Case than the Emperor, or any other Ally ; or the Argument is void. At this Rate, we are to hear from our Enemies but by the Mouth of a Cannon ; and the just Consequence that follows upon this Construction of the Text, is that all Means of Peace are cut off, and
the

the War, to the Joy of those that delight in it, is entailed upon us for ever.

Let us consider,

First, How we came under these inviolable Obligations, to which these Religious Observers of Treaties would bind us down for ever : And,

Secondly, How our Allies have dealt with us in this Regard.

The Grand Alliance was a Bargain, and not a very advantageous one for *England*, had it been never so strictly made good. The Obligations of it were reciprocal. How negligently our Allies kept to their Part of it for thirteen Years, and how that Neglect increased every Year, as it was complained of in the Time of the Earl *Godolphin's* Administration, promised often to be redressed; till at last, by plain Extracts and Accounts laid before the Parliament, it appeared that the *Dutch* had not complied with one Third of what they were by the most solemn Contract to furnish, is evident to the whole Nation ; till at last the States very roundly told us, that they had done all they could, were not obliged to act according to the Exactness of the Quota's and Contingents agreed to, and that we should force them into a separate Peace, if we insisted upon these Proportions, or even restrained an open Trade which they carried on with *France* ; which Trade was disadvantageous to *Great Britain*, by near a Million Sterling *per Annum*. Thus they performed their Obligations to us. How they acted with the Emperor, even in Relation to this very Grand Alliance, is evident in that they formally entered, since the making it, into two Treaties of Partition signed by the Pensioner *Heinsius* himself, in which they oblige themselves to wage War against
the

the Emperor and his Adherents, in case he is not satisfied (instead of the whole Monarchy of *Spain*) with the Portions which, without his Knowledge, and against his Will, are assigned to him in those Treaties. And as to the Emperor himself, during several Campaigns of the last War, tho' the Allies had near 200,000 Men, of which *England* maintained above half, employed in endeavouring to get the Dominion of so great a Part of *Europe* and *America* to his Family, he has not had of his own Troops 9000 Men; and, which is yet more wonderful, he takes it ill, that being at the same Time Emperor of *Germany*, and Master of above half *Italy*, he is not likewise King of *Sicily*, and Master of the *Indies*: Tho' the Basis of the Grand Alliance is founded upon this Principle, that these Dominions shall never be united in the Person of him that shall be Emperor, or even King of the *Romans*. He takes this ill of a Queen of *Great Britain*, that contributed essentially to set the Imperial Crown upon his Head, as he himself acknowledges; and he takes it ill too of a Nation that rescued the Empire itself out of the Hands of *France*, and secured it to the Dominion of the *Austrian* Family.

That we may remember how scrupulous all this while our Allies were, as to this Point of not treating, unless in Conjunction with us; and how much they valued any Complaint or Remonstrance which we could make upon this Head, we need but just look back upon the common and known Occurrences of some Years past, even as they stand published and printed in the Shops.

About the Beginning of the Year 1709, * the President *de Rouillé*, with Passports from the States, came to *Antwerp*, and from thence to *Moerdyke*, where Messieurs *de Buys* and *Van Dussen*, delegated by the States, conferred with him privately; and in this clandestine Manner these Deputies continue to act with the *French* Minister till *April*, in which Month the Duke of *Marlborough*, who had never been admitted to confer with *de Rouillé*, and had only taken such Report of the Negotiation as the Pensioner was pleased to give him, came into *England* to give an Account thereof to Her Majesty. In his Grace's Absence, Monsieur *de Torcy* arrived at the *Hague*; the Pensioner advises the Duke thereof by Letter; and upon this Advice, his Grace sets out for the *Hague*. The Conferences continue all this while between the *French* Minister and the two *Dutch* Deputies; for neither the Duke of *Marlborough* or Lord *Townshend* have ever yet seen Monsieur *de Rouillé*, till he is presented to them the 19th of *May*, by Monsieur *de Torcy*. The *French*, in these three or four Months, made such great Concessions, as gave Hopes of a good and solid Peace: But these Concessions were still rejected. Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough* very seldom vouchsafed to assist at the Meetings appointed: Nor was it very strange that two great Generals, at the Head of 200,000 Men, should not be very fond of quitting the Advantages of those high Stations, for the bare Satisfaction of having their Names printed at the Bottom of a Treaty of Peace.

* See Page 283.

Monfieur *de Torcy* at laſt returns to *Paris*, having openly declared above three Weeks before his going from *Holland*, that the Preliminaries, as they were then drawn up, could never be conſented to by the King his Maſter. Notwithſtanding all this Procedure, and the repeated Proteſtations of that Miniſter on this Subject, 'in Deſpite of Fact and Probability, we draw up a mock Negotiation, as if already agreed to by *France*, and ſend it over to be ratified by the Great Seal of *England*; and to the Wonder, as well as the Laughter of all *Europe*, we find it formally ſigned, as agreed by the Imperial, *British*, and *Dutch* Plenipotentiaries. Not one Word made of the *French* refuſing it; which, in relation to *England*, carried with it juſt as good Senſe, as if I ſhould get the Writings engroſſed for a Man's Eſtate, who has ſaid he will have nothing to do with me; or that I ſhould ſign a Contract of Marriage on my Part with a Woman, who had three Weeks before fled the Country to avoid my Solicitation.

Happy yet had it been for *Great Britain*, if this Proceeding had proved only ridiculous; but how dangerous it was likewise, the very Recital of the Articles will demonſtrate. They carry us on to a Point of View, far beyond what was propoſed by the Grand Alliance; and whereas we were hitherto obliged to make War only till a reaſonable Compensation be got to the Emperor inſtead of *Spain*, we are not now to lay down our Arms till the Houſe of *Austria* is put into the intire Poſſeſſion of the whole *Spaniſh* Monarchy. If *Peru* or *Mexico* now reſuſe the Dominion of that Family, our Fleets and our Armies are to go thither to conquer theſe Kingdoms for them. We are at the ſame Time under ſuch Obligations to the Emperor, as
to

to *Germany*, as may entail a War of fifty Years upon us, and an Expence of seven Millions each of these Years, in case his Imperial Majesty thinks good to hold us to our Bargain: So that without entering into any arithmetical Detail, the third Part of the Recolt and Lands of all *England* is given, and a growing Interest upon it, for the Prolongation of a War, which is now out of our Power to finish; and this too upon no Consideration or Concession to us in the World, on the Emperor's Part. No little *Comtat* or Hans-Town ever acted with such Humility and Submission to the Court at *Vienna*, as the Crown of *Britain* did on this Occasion: 'Tis all Condescension on our Side, and the Emperor's Love is worth the other fifty Millions: Nay, he has not as much as previously honour'd us with the Approbation and Consent of the Empire: It is enough that he will do it as soon as possible, and we honestly believe him, at least upon his *bona Fide*. How well he has acquitted himself in this Point, may, amongst other Articles, be seen in one Particular.

Whilst immediate and peculiar Care was taken of every Article that could be thought to regard the Interest of his Imperial Majesty, or the States General, the State of the Protestant Religion in *Germany* was what as well the late Queen as His present Majesty have frequently declared they had very much at Heart: But in these Preliminaries the only Care that was taken in this Behalf, as well by our Calvinistical as Catholic Friends, was, that the Affair is referable to the Negotiations of a General Peace; which is, in plain *English*, that this Article is left fairly to the Decision of the Emperor, the chief Potentate that opposes it. It is to be determin'd at a Tribunal where a Plu-

rality of Roman Catholics preside; and the *French* King is by this excused, if he is found passive in the Matter, under a Notion that That Prince has nothing to do in the Affairs of the Empire. This, by the way, was the special Care taken in these Preliminaries of the Protestant Religion.

In the same Preliminaries we fairly give to the *Dutch* all the Towns in the *Low Countries* to garrison, and all the Revenues of those Countries, to maintain their so doing. From this Moment we proceed upon the most unequal, as well as most unjust Conditions that ever were imposed by Allies, upon a free People, (shall I say?) nay, by Conquerors upon the Vanquished. To continue to fight, is thought the proper and sole Business of the *English*. We are to sustain all the Loss; Strangers are to share all the Advantage, and we are never to think of Peace till they tell us they are weary of the War. At this Price of our Treasure, of our Blood, and indeed of Common Sense, we acquired that great Pennyworth of Glory, which (as Count *Gallas* satirically told Her late Majesty) the Emperor would have bought, if he had had Money enough. And in this Situation our old Friends, so much famed for emblematic Wit, might again have painted us with Lions Claws, but with Calves Heads.

The most melancholy Animadversion yet remains to be made upon these pernicious Preliminaries, ratified on our Part, never so much as signed, or intended to be signed, on the Part of *France*: That upon M. de Torcy's Return to *Versailles*, the *French* King sends them to all the Provinces of his Kingdom, shews them to be captious in their Tenor, unreasonable as to their Demands,

nay,

nay, impossible for him to comply with,* and calculated only to make a Separation between that King and *Spain*. The whole People of *France* with all imaginable Zeal consent, Clergy as well as Laity, to augment their Taxes; resolve universally, whether with Reason or no I shall not determine, that the Allies never did intend a Peace, and will fight, *pro aris & focis*, till more reasonable Terms may be proposed: And to shew they are in earnest, they sell their very Plate, raise the Dixmes of their Estates, and supply the King with above a hundred Millions of Livres. The *Spaniards*, at the same Time, for fear of being hereafter dismember'd or abused, as they thought they were by these Proceedings, became so inviolably united to the Interest of *Philip* and his Family, that this Transaction, joined to the surprising Effects of the following Campaign, made it utterly impossible that That Prince should, humanly speaking, be ever removed out of the Dominions of *Spain*, or attacked with any Success in them.

It may not be amiss to observe, that in the Instructions given this Year † to the Duke of *Marlborough* and Lord *Townshend*, they are to declare to the Pensioner of *Holland*, and such other Members of the State as may be proper, that no Negotiation of Peace should be entered into with *France* till the Preliminaries were first adjusted between Her Majesty and the States General. Is the Emperor, the King of *Prussia*, the Elector of *Hanover*, or any Prince of the Empire, let into this Secret? Nay, do not the Instructions particularly say, that this Communication is to be made only

* See Page 287.

† 1709.

to the Pensioner and some of his Favourites? Does there appear in these Instructions that great Tenderness to all our Allies in general, or that Zeal more particularly for the Emperor's Interest, which flames out with such Force at present, as is likely to set the whole Nation on Fire?

However, thus runs the Instruction, and the Reference from it is very easy. In 1709, the Queen's Plenipotentiaries may not only treat, but conclude with the Pensioner, and such other of the States as may be convenient and necessary, exclusive, as has been already said, of the rest of the Allies: The Plenipotentiaries are neither to regard nor ask if these very Gentlemen of *Holland* have sufficient, or indeed any Power from their Masters. Yet in 1712, the same Queen's whole Council, or such of them as she pleases to nominate, shall not be thought qualified to treat with a Minister of *France*, tho' he comes instructed with as Full Powers as any Minister, even a Prince of the Blood, did or could ever produce from that Crown; and though the Interests of all the Allies were previously taken care of, were mentioned, and (as far as the Nature of the Thing could admit) adjusted, the first Time this Plenipotentiary meets with the Persons thus delegated by Her Majesty.

Towards the latter End of this Year *, the Barrier Treaty was set on Foot: It was contrived, drawn up, and perfected in *Holland*; it is signed by seven of the States General on their Side; amongst whom is the Pensioner *Heinsius*; and on our Side it is signed singly by Lord *Townshend*; his Colleague, our first Plenipotentiary, who had

* 1709.

more Precaution and Experience, for very solid Reasons, declining to sign it jointly with him. When this Treaty was sent over, and perused by Those who had then the Honour to be of Her Majesty's Council, tho' the Whole was generally condemned, yet, to keep well with the *Dutch*, as the Phrase at that Time went, it was thought proper to try such Experiment as might, in some measure, rectify the grossest and most visible Inconveniency in this unequal Stipulation; by which, in one Word, we were to have had nothing but what, God be thanked! we had secured to ourselves by our own Laws and Constitutions, and for what we ought to be indebted to no People, or Body of Men, but to our own Parliament; and to no Cause or Thing, but to the natural Liberty of our Country, and the Providence of God in the Protection of it; while by the same Treaty the States were to have the *Usu fruit*, and probably the absolute Possession, of all the *Low Countries*.

To redress or conceal the great Disproportion and Enormity of this Treaty, some explanatory Articles were drawn up, and sent to be inserted with, or added to, the Whole; but so far were we from being heard on this Occasion, that the Treaty was sent back signed: These Articles, particularly eight of them of the greatest Tenour and Importance, being absolutely exploded and rejected.

When any Man has read these Articles,* he has but to reflect to what sad Extremities the Crown, the Ministry, and the Nation of *Great Britain*, were reduced. The States, without any Restriction or Account, shall garrison and possess not only what they have already, but whatever they

* Vide G. Coll. of Treaties, Page 490.

shall acquire in *Flanders* during the Progress of the War: *Britain* shall, without any Advantage, without the least Consideration, assist to the completing this Bargain, with all her Wealth, and to the utmost of her Power.

It is here observable, that the Queen offer'd to stipulate with *Holland*, that neither of us should enter into a Treaty with *France* before the entire Monarchy of *Spain* was yielded up as a Preliminary. The *Dutch* refused absolutely to enter into such Agreement, and gave this Reason for their Refusal: That their People would never be brought to consent to it. Yet upon the Report made at the *Hague* * by the *Dutch* Deputies, that the Conferences they had held with the *French* had not met with the Success desired, the Imperial Minister declared, that the Emperor would not consent to any Partition of the *Spanish* Monarchy. And the next Year † he makes the same Declaration, at a Conference of the Allies at *Utrecht*; tho', as I have said, the very Principle upon which the grand Alliance is founded, is, that a reasonable Compensation should be made to the Emperor, in regard to his Pretensions to *Spain*. What is Her Majesty to do now? Insist upon the entire Restitution of *Spain* to the House of *Austria*? The *Dutch* will not come in even to the Proposal. The Queen and Her Ministry must not be released from this Engagement, from which our Allies have so evidently receded: And the People of *Great Britain* are still to be tied down to this hard, this unequal, this impossible Condition; insomuch, that when the Disposition of human Affairs in the two succeeding Years had render'd it infinitely more

* 1710.

† March 4. 1711-12.

so than it was at the Time that the *Dutch* made this Refusal, a great Lord confess'd in the Upper House, that the Thing was impossible ; but he still urged that it should be insisted on.

The State of Affairs were such at that * Time, that as it appeared to be the Counsel, so was it really the Interest of the Imperialists to prolong the War. 200,000 Men were fighting for them ; of which they did not maintain above 10,000 : Their Dominions were to be extended by a Victory, and the Loss of a Battle must have kept us longer in a War. This Children call, *Cross I win, Pile you lose*. If the Allies had had the better, the Emperor's Demands had increased. The best we could have expected would have been, that the Congress should have been preferr'd to *Frankfort* or to *Baden*. How good Conditions we should there have obtained, even as to what related to our own Honour, and how the Demands of *England* would have been regarded, or the Protestant Interest sustained, is evident from what has since been done at the latter of these Places. But turn the Tables : Had we lost the Battle, their End had yet been more effectually gained : *Holland* and *Great Britain* must have renewed and augmented their Strength : The old Argument, that the exorbitant Power of *France* was not yet sufficiently abated, would have been renewed ; and we, again frighten'd, must have still gone on in a wild Maze of a destructive Land War.

The Proposal of having *Dunkirk* demolished, our Friends rejected, without vouchsafing to give us any Reason for their so doing ; tho' this was the only Advantage we proposed to ourselves, or

* 1712.

expected to receive on that Side, for all the Victories we had helped them to gain, and for having procured them the almost entire Possession of thirty fortified Places, and ten Provinces.

Hard is the Fate of *Great Britain*, if we are bound and condemned to Terms from which our Allies declare themselves released; if we are obliged to make War for them upon Conditions, which they acknowledge they cannot make their own Subjects perform; and if the States, who would not admit of our having *Dunkirk*, are not only excused, but justified; whilst the Queen's Ministers, for having since obtained it, are not only to be blamed but impeached.

It may be here not improperly observed, That *Dunkirk* is * named as what may require a particular Attention, because this Port and *Calais* are so near, that the Enemy may sail thence to the Coasts of the States, or to those of *Great Britain*, in one Tide: But nothing is said or proposed in Favour of its being demolished. It may be added, that neither during this last or the precedent War, they would ever consent to the besieging it, tho' we had often proposed this Enterprize to them, and offered to do it at our own Expence.

About the Beginning of the Year 1710, the † *French* Plenipotentiaries arrive in *Holland*, and at *Moerdyke Buys* and *Vander Dussen* meet them. The Conferences which these Deputies hold from Time to Time, are transmitted to the *Hague*, to the Pensionary and some of the Deputies of

* Committee of State, Page 17.

† The Marshal *d'Uxelles*, and the Abbot *de Polignac*.
See Page 298.

State ; and by these Persons they are communicated to the Imperial and *British* Plenipotentiaries.

The Conferences at *Gertruydenberg*, all *March* and *April*, are carried on in the same Manner ; and when in *May* there appeared some Hope that the Negotiation, which had like to have broke off, might be renewed, the Imperial Minister desired to be admitted to the succeeding Conferences ; but this was over-ruled ; and the Reason given for it was, that the other Ministers, particularly those of *England*, might claim the same Privilege. Not only the Propositions at *Gertruydenberg*, but even the Letter by which the *French* Plenipotentiaries desire to be dismissed, are communicated by the Pensionary only to the Imperial and *British* Ministers ; and this Letter is addressed to *Petticum*, who writes them Word again that he had communicated his Letter to them who were intrusted in the Affair, and what the Deputies had related to have passed in the last Conference, had been told to the Ministers of the Allies. What Permission our Ministers had to hear only by second-hand, or what superior Power the Deputies of the States had in the first Place to confer and act with the *French* Plenipotentiaries, I cannot determine. Why *Petticum*, who is an Agent only for the Duke of *Holstein*, had the Negotiation some time trusted to himself alone, is yet more astonishing. What appears most plain is, That we were to make War for the *Dutch*, and they to make Peace for us. The definitive Answer of the States to the *French* Memorial, when their Plenipotentiaries were going away, is a Resolution drawn up by some of their Deputies, and communicated to them only : So sure were they of having us agree
to

to whatever they did. And as the *Dutch* were the sole Managers of this Negotiation, and particularly of its breaking off, it is observable that Jealousies began now to be entertained of them in *England*.

New Overtures are made in *June* ; the Imperial Plenipotentiary renews his Desires of being admitted, at least to hear what these are, and receives again the like Denial. He says positively, he has an Order from *Vienna* to be thus admitted. He sends an Express on this Subject to Prince *Eugene*, who advises him to act on this Occasion as the *British* Ministers did ; that the Queen, who contributed so greatly to the War, was contented to trust this preliminary Negotiation of Peace entirely to the Conduct of the States ; and that there could be no harm in his following this good Example.

* The Council of State to the States General declare, That in Affairs of War, Hope and Appearance are not always the right Measures of Success ; and that sometimes, how unlikely soever or unpromising the Posture of Affairs may stand, great Events may ensue thereupon. *****

Here the Manuscript ends,

On the 10th of *June*, 1715, the Day after the Commons Committee made their Report, *Robert Walpole*, Esq; who had been Chairman of that Committee, and of the Committee of Council who examined Mr. PRIOR, moved the House for an Impeachment against MATTHEW PRIOR, Esq;

* Nov. 17, 1710.

whereupon, on the 17th of the same Month, Mr. PRIOR was ordered into close Custody, and “ That no Person should be admitted to see him, “ without Leave from the Speaker.” And in 1717, when an Act of Grace was passed, Mr. PRIOR, who lay still at the Mercy of the House of Commons, was one of the Persons excepted out of it. But being soon after discharged, he retired wholly from Business, and spent the Remainder of his Days chiefly at his own Villa of *Down-Hall*, or at *Wimpole*, a Seat of the Earl of *Oxford*, where he died on the 18th of *December*, 1721.

I have now nothing more to add of Mr. PRIOR's, but the State of his Accounts, as a Plenipotentiary Minister, which has been two or three Times referred to in the foregoing Sheets ; and to prefix to it a Letter of his to Mr. *Daniel Arthur*, Merchant, concerning the Payment of a Draught for 2000 *l.* which he had made upon the Lord Treasurer *Oxford*, but which had not been answered when the following was writ, notwithstanding the Hopes that had been given him in the * Letters before inserted.

S I R,

Westminster, Oct. 13, 1716.

I N Answer to the Letter you sent me concerning the Bill of 2000 Pound, drawn by me in the Year 1714, from *Paris*, upon the Earl of *Oxford*, then Lord High Treasurer, I must inform you,

That I had Her late Majesty's Orders signified to me by the said Earl, to draw that Bill on him (as I had done several others before, which were all regularly paid) ; that a Warrant was sign-

* See Pages 413, 414, 415.

ed on *Edward Nicholas*, Esq; to pay this in like manner as my other Bills were paid. But by the Removal of the said late Lord Treasurer, and Her Majesty's Death immediately afterwards, the Payment of the said Bill was postponed.

A State of my Demands being by his Grace the Duke of *Shrewsbury* laid before his Majesty on his happy Arrival here, wherein that 2000 Pound was included; His Majesty was graciously pleased to say, He would give the necessary Directions therein.

The Earl of *Halifax* being afterwards in the Treasury, laid before his Majesty in Council, a new State, which he had ordered to be prepared of what was due to me from the Crown; upon which His Majesty was pleased to order, that what had incurred since his Accession to the Crown, should be paid immediately out of his Civil List Money; (which was accordingly done) and that the said 2000 Pound should be paid out of the Arrears of the late Queen's Civil List Money: And this was confirmed to me by two Letters, one from the said Earl of *Halifax*, and the other from Mr. Secretary *Stanhope*.

By all which it appears, that this is a Debt properly demandable from the Crown, and that your Application ought to be to the Lords of the Treasury, to make good the same out of the Arrears of Her late Majesty's Civil List Money. And I cannot doubt but when their Lordships shall see the Equity thereof, they will, in their great Justice and Regard to the public Credit, (which I take to be concerned in this Matter) order the Payment of the said Warrant out of the Arrears of Her late Majesty's Civil List Money. I am, Sir, &c.

The State of Mr. PRIOR's Account.

MR. PRIOR went for *France* the 1st of *August*, 1712, from whence to the first of *November*, 1714, is two Years and a Quarter, in which Time there hath been paid on his Bills

l. s. d.
11810 0 0

And he hath drawn other Bills, which are yet unpaid, for

4458 0 0
—————

l. s. d.
16268 0 0

The Pay of an Ambassador for that Time, and for his Ordinary Bills of Extraordinaries, would amount to

15300 0 0
—————

So that he hath exceeded that of Ambassador, by

968 0 0

The Pay of a Plenipotentiary for that Time would be only 7918*l.* and his Exceedings, reckoning that Way, would be

8350 0 0

Mr. PRIOR in his Letter seems to give an Account only of eight Months, as tho' these Bills for 4458*l.* were drawn for that Time; and if it should be looked upon, that the Sum of 11810*l.* paid by Warrants of the late Lord Treasurer, the Earl of *Oxford*, was accounted for to him, then the Account as an Ambassador for those eight Months, would be

4533 6 8

And

And these Bills being	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
	44	58	0
	<hr/>		

Will be less than the Pay of an Ambassador by	}			
		75	6	8
		<hr/>		

But the Pay of a Plenipotentiary for that Time, would be only	}			
2346 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> so that he will have exceeded that of Plenipotentiary by		2112	6	0
		<hr/>		

Mr. PRIOR, in Excuse of this large Demand, lays before your Lordships several extraordinary Expences, which in the said eight Months amount to 16135 Livres, viz.

Celebrating Her late Majesty's	}	3100
Coronation Day		
Mourning for the Duke of Berry	1935	
Ditto for Her late Majesty	3300	
Expences at <i>Fontainbleau</i>	4400	
Celebrating His Majesty's	}	3400
Coronation		
		<hr/>

16135 Livres.

Which is about 942 *l* Sterling.

From the End of <i>August</i> , 1712, to	}	4 Months.
<i>December</i> following		
From <i>Decemb.</i> 1712, to <i>Decemb.</i> 1713.	13 Months.	
From <i>Decemb.</i> 1713, to <i>August</i> , 1714.	7 Months.	
		<hr/>

	l.
Ambassador	15300
Equipage	1500
Plate	1800
Mourning for the Duke of Berry and for the Queen, about	300

Whereas Mr. PRIOR from — to —
is charged, &c. —

Altho' he has not had the Advantages allowed
to Ambassadors, as is alledged.

One hundred and four Weeks from
August, 1712, to August, 1714, at
100*l. per Week ordinary En-* } 10400 0 0
tertainment.

Mourning, &c. about 300 0 0

Wanting 10700 0 0
1660 0 0

Parliament 12360 0 0

In the following Letter of Mr. *Drift's* to the
Earl of *Oxford*, (found among the other Papers
contained in this Volume) we have a candid
Testimony that Mr. PRIOR was not mistaken in
these Words of his last Will; *My Lord Harley*
will be juster towards all with whom he deals, and
kinder to my Friends, than any other Man I leave
behind me in the World; as well as of the sincere
Regard paid by Mr. *Drift* to the Memory of his
dear *Master*, as he affectionately calls him, and of
the Genuineness of the Manuscripts written in the
same Hand, or received from the same Quarter.

A Letter to the Right Honourable EDWARD Earl of OXFORD, with an Accompt depending between his Lordship and Adrian Drift.

*When to the World lov'd PRIOR bad adieu,
And on bright Cherubs' Wings to Heaven flew,
Poor Drift's Concerns, my Lord, be left to you ; }
To you, my Lord, of all his Friends, the best,
Most just, most kind :—Thus, dying, Drift be blest ;
And thus, great Guardian, blest, on you depends
The future Weal of Drift, O OXFORD, best of Friends.*

My Lord,

HAVING had the Honour the first Day of *August*, 1723, to present a Book to you containing a State of the Accompts depending between your Lordship and myself, when the said Accompt was settled, (to which I beg leave to refer you) exclusive of another Accompt put into your Lordship's Hands by Mr. *Oliver Martin*, concerning Timber - Trees, Grubbed Wood, Bricks, &c. (Chattels at *Down-Hall*) a true Copy of which is hereunto annexed ; as is likewise an Abstract of all the Effects chosen by your Lordship, as well there as at *London* ; the very low Appraisement whereof, you had the Goodness (not long after you had made such Choice from the Inventory) to tell me in the most gracious Manner, should be considered. Since when having received several Sums of Money of your Lordship, and in *November* last your farther Command to make up my Accompts a-new, and to lay them before you ; I do, in Obedience thereto, now transmit to you, my Lord, a faithful
State

State of them, as they at present stand, Errors excepted, from the aforementioned first of *August*, 1723, to the 25th of *March*, 1726, humbly submitting the several Articles contained in the said Accompts to your Lordship's candid Examination and Consideration ; praying, at the same Time, that when you have gone thro' the whole, you will be pleased to signify your final Pleasure to me thereupon ; when, my Lord, I shall proceed without delay to settle my Affairs in Life ! A Life that would have been led in much Anxiety, had you not been so infinitely kind as to alleviate the same by your Countenance and Favour ; and thereby rendering the great Loss of my late Dear Master, less grievous to him, who prays Permission to repeat, that he is with everlasting Duty and Gratitude,

My Lord, Your Lordship's, &c.

ADRIAN DRIFT.

N.B. *Mr. PRIOR's Estate at Down-Hall reverted after his Death to the Earl of Oxford, then Lord HARLEY, who likewise bought the most valuable of his Pictures, Medals, &c. of which Mr. PRIOR had by Will given Him the Preference.*

Tho' the following Piece has no immediate relation to Mr. PRIOR's History, yet as it seems to have been kept by him and his Executor as a curious Anecdote, and perhaps is not to be met with in any printed Collection, we hope our Readers will not think it a Fault that we preserve it at the End of this Volume, by Way of Appendix, with an *English* Translation for the Use of those who are unacquainted with the Original.

Copie de la Lettre de Monsieur Stanhope au General St. Saphorin.

De Londres le 4. Novemb. 1718.

NOUS avons reçu vos lettres du 26me Octobre, N. S. et le courier de Monsieur Bentenreider nous a porté celles du 29me, que nous détaillent les raisons qui persuadent l'Empereur qu'il ne peut retenir la Princesse Sobieski. Monsieur Bentenreider nous a fait là dessus toutes les memes representations, & Sa Majesté voit avec peine l'embarras que l'arrest de cette Princesse attira à l'Empereur. Mais s'il doit souhaiter qu'il en sorte, c'est par un tout autre chemin que celui que l'on offre. Il est trop evident que tous ceux qui se donnent tant de mouvements pour procurer l'accomplissement de ce mariage, ne s'en donneroient pas moins pour faire valoir dans la suite les liaisons de sang, que le Pretendant contracteroit par là, le même querelles les animeroit de même, et l'Empereur doit par toutes sortes de motifs d'amitié et d'intérêt couper court à des sollicitations et des effets dont il se ressentiroit luy-même le premier, par les justes ombrages aux quels il donneroit lieu.

Mais outre la partie considerable que le Pretendant se formeroit au dehors par ce mariage, et les esperances dangereuses que cela nourriroit dans les mal-affectionnez de la nation; les bons serviteurs et fideles sujets du Roy eux-mêmes ne pourroient en tirer que des consequences funestes de la demarche à laquelle l'Empereur demande que Sa Majesté donne les mains. Nous avons toujours regardé les interets du Roy comme inseparables d'avec ceux de l'Empereur; et il est vray que l'Empereur a paru être dans le même sisteme de son côté; mais en tout ce qu'il a fait jusqu'icy consequemment a ce sisteme luy seul étoit intéressé personnellement, et il n'a proprement fait que per-

Permettre que le Roy luy servit à ses risques, à ses depens, et à travers mille contradictions. Je avoue que le Roy l'a fait autant en vue du bien public que par son attachement à l'Empereur : mais l'Empereur en a tiré des avantages particuliers et très essentielles, et Sa Majesté les luy a procures avec plaisir ; qu'en échange l'on examine ce que l'Empereur à fait pour le Roy en son particulier, l'on ne trouvera que ce seul arrest de la Princesse Sobieski. Le Roy n'y est pas moins sensible pour cela, et il est même prêt à faire valoir cette marque d'amitié pour pousser ses veues en faveur de l'Empereur. Mais à peine la Princesse Sobieski a-t-elle été arrestée que l'Empereur propose de la relacher : il ne veut pas qu'on infere de là qu'il ait plus de menagement pour le Pretendant que pour le Roy, mais le seul motif qu'il en peut alleguer, s'il l'emporteroit une fois sur les vrais interests, nous prepareroit bien à des pires consequences. C'est que sa conscience seroit chargée s'il retenoit la femme d'autrui. Or, si les ecclesiastiques gaignoient une fois sur luy de la faire concourir à un mariage qu'ils pretendent être valide selon leurs canons, il n'y auroit plus de fin à leurs arguments, et ils auroient la même facilité à luy prouver qu'il doit en conscience concourir à rendre des royaumes à celui à qui il viendrait à rendre une épouse et une parente. Nous aurions bien à repondre à ceux qui concluroient ainsi dans le parlement, que l'Empereur observe religieusement ses traites : Sa Majesté Imperiale auroit fait connoître qu'une conscience maniée par le clergé catholique degage de tous les liens d'amitié, et de l'alliance, de sorte que dans le cas qu'on nous propose la question ne se reduit pas à moins qu'à sçavoir si l'Empereur à déjà opté ou non entre le Roy et le Pretendant. Je suis bien seur que l'Empereur n'a pas pensé à mettre ce choix en question quand il a souhaité de pouvoir relacher la Princesse Sobieski ; mais lorsqu'il y aura meurement refleché, il verra bien qu'il

ne peut pas y avoir de milieu dans la situation où le Roy se trouve, et qu'il faut absolument en être tout entier pour Sa Majesté au tout pour son ennemi. Ce n'est pourtant point que le Roy songe à violenter la conscience de l'Empereur ; mais à juger sainement, la conscience doit nous faire éviter le plus grand de deux maux, comme la prudence doit nous faire choisir le moindre de deux inconveniences. D'ailleurs il est sûr que ce mariage n'est pas allé si loin que le Prince Jaques veut le faire accroire ; il doit être justement suspect sur ce fait, et nous savons par des voies plus sûres, et sur tout par des lettres interceptées de la maison du Pretendant même, que le mariage devoit seulement être benî à Bologne. Mais quand même ce seroit une *matrimonium ratum*, comme le Prince le pretend, au moins n'est il pas consommé. Il y a cent exemples que le Pape a dissolvé de pareils mariages pour de bien moindres sujets ; et la conduite que le Pape a toujours tenue, tant par rapport à l'Empereur que par rapport au Roy, merite bien qu'on ne luy epargne pas là le devoir ; et les moyens pour le mortifier en cas de refus ne nous manqueront pas. Ajoutez y que si des mariages clandestinement benis doivent absolument subsister, et obliger en conscience à l'entradition de l'epousée, les Archiduchesses ne seroient plus en seureté dans le palais même de l'Empereur. Le mariage de la Princesse Sobieski avec le Pretendant ou empeche ou rompu, que l'une prenne ensuite un autre mari, et l'autre une autre femme ; toujours l'Empereur auroit prevenu les suites inevitables aux quelles il s'exposeroit et son meilleur ami s'il s'avançoit la jonction de ces deux personnes ; et Sa Majesté Imperiale aura sans doute suffisamment dequoy porter le Pape à calmer sa conscience, en la dispensant d'une loy qui n'oblige qu'autant qu'il trouve à propos.

Ainsi, Monsieur, comme vous êtes pleinement informé, tant par cette lettre que par mes precedentes,

des sentiments du Roy sur le susdit mariage, vous ne manquerez pas d'en faire à la cour imperiale toutes les representations necessaires et proportionnées aux inconveniens ou Sa Majesté envisage : nous nous en sommes enclinez de même avec Monsieur de Bentenreider ; et ce ministre seût bien de quelle importance il nous est de ne laisser même entrevoir à personne vers l'ouverture de notre parlement, qu'il peut seulement être question du relachement de la Princesse Sobieski. Je suis, &c.

Signé STANHOPE.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Secretary Stanhope to General St. Saphorin,

London, Nov. 4. 1718.

WE have received your Letters of the 26th of October, N. S. and M. Bentenreider's Courier brought us those of the 29th, containing the Reasons which persuade the Emperor that he cannot detain the Princess Sobieski. M. Bentenreider has made here the same Representations on that Head, and His Majesty sees with Concern, the Difficulties which the Detention of that Princess will bring on the Emperor. But tho' He cannot but wish these may be avoided, He wishes it by a Way very different from that which has been proposed. It is too evident that all those who take so much Pains to procure the Accomplishment of this Marriage, would not take less hereafter to enforce the Validity of those Ties of Blood which the Pretender would thereby contract ; the Engagements would be equally strong, and the Emperor ought, by all the Motives of Friendship and Interest, to put a Stop to those Solicitations and Effects, the Consequences of which himself would feel the first, thro' the

just Umbrages to which his Conduct must give birth.

But besides the considerable Party which the Pretender would form abroad by this Marriage, and the dangerous Hopes that it would foment in the Ill-affected here at home ; His Majesty's faithful Servants and good Subjects themselves could not but draw fatal Consequences from this Step, to which the Emperor requires His Majesty to give his consent. We have always regarded the King's Interests as inseparable from those of the Emperor ; and it is true that the Emperor, on his Part, has appeared of the same Sentiment ; but in all that he has done hitherto, in consequence of this System, himself alone was personally interested, and, properly speaking, he has only permitted the King to serve him at his own Hazard and Expences, and in Spite of a thousand Obstacles. I confess the King has done this as much with a View to the public Good, as from his Attachment to the Emperor ; but the Emperor has drawn from it particular and very essential Advantages, which His Majesty has procured him with Pleasure. Let us examine, in return, what the Emperor has done for the King, and we shall find this Arrest of the Princess *Sobieski* to be the only Instance. His Majesty, however, is not the less sensible of the Kindness, and is willing to receive this single Mark of Friendship as an Equivalent for extending his Views yet farther in the Emperor's Favour. But the Princess is no sooner arrested, than the Emperor proposes to release her. He would not have it inferred from thence, that he has more regard for the Pretender than for the King : But the only Motive that he can alledge, if it should once get the better of real Interest, would be productive of yet worse Consequences :

quences : It is, that his Conscience would be burthened, if he should detain another Man's Wife. If the Ecclesiastics once carry this Point, to make him concur in a Marriage, because they pretend it is valid according to their Canons, there will afterwards be no end to their Arguments ; and they will with the same Facility prove to him, that he ought to contribute in bestowing Kingdoms on that Man, to whom he has just before given a Wife and a Relation. It would be in vain for us to answer those who might reason thus in Parliament, " That the Emperor religiously observes his Treaties ;" when His Imperial Majesty had made it manifest, that a Conscience managed by the Catholic Clergy, dissolves all the Bands of Friendship and Alliance. The present Question, in short, amounts only to this ; " To know whether the Emperor has, or has not, hitherto made his Choice betwixt the King and the Pretender". I am very sure that the Emperor never thought of putting this Choice in Question, when he wished he might release the Princess *Sobieski*. But when he has maturely reflected upon it, he will see that there can be no Medium in the King's present Situation ; and that he must absolutely become either wholly for His Majesty, or wholly for his Enemy. Not that the King ever dreamed of violating the Emperor's Conscience : But to judge impartially, Conscience should make us shun the greatest of two Evils, as Prudence should make us chuse the least of two Inconveniences. Besides, it is certain, that this Marriage is not gone so far as Prince *James** would have it believed : He ought justly to be suspected on this Head, and we have more sure Ways of knowing, particularly by Letters intercepted from the Pretender's own Family, that the Marriage was only

to be *bleſſed* at *Bologne*. But even if it were *Matrimonium ratum*, as the Prince pretends, at leaſt it is not conſummated. There are an hundred Examples of the Pope's having diſſolved ſuch Marriages, upon much leſs weighty Occaſions ; and the Pope, by his continual Conduct, as well with regard to the Emperor as to the King, does not deſerve to be excuſed his Duty herein ; nor do we want the Means of mortifying him, in Caſe of a Refuſal. Add to this, that if Marriages clandeſtinely *bleſſed*, ought abſolutely to ſubſiſt, and to oblige in Conſcience to the Delivery of the Bride, the Archducheſſes would be no longer ſafe, even in the Imperial Palace. The Princeſs *Sobieski's* Marriage with the Pretender being either obſtructed or diſſolved, ſhe may afterwards take another Huſband, and he another Wife ; the Emperor will have effectually prevented thoſe inevitable Conſequences, to which he will expoſe himſelf and his beſt Friends, if he promotes the Union of theſe two Perſons ; and his Imperial Maſteſty, doubtleſs, will have Means enough to induce the Pope to calm his Conſcience, by diſpenſing with a Law which can oblige only ſo far as he finds it convenient.

Thus Sir, being fully informed, as well by this Letter as by my preceding, of the King's Sentiments upon the ſaid Marriage, you will not fail to make all the neceſſary Representations thereof at the Imperial Court ; Representations proportioned to the Inconveniencies which His Maſteſty foreſees. We ſhall do the ſame here to M. *Bentenreider* ; and that Miniſter well knows of what Importance it is to us, towards the Opening of our Parliament ; not to let it even be ſuſpected that the Release of the Princeſs was ever brought into Debate. I am, &c.

STANHOPE.

IN-

I N D E X.

A

ACCOMPT, State of Mr. *Prior's*, as Public Minister, Page 461.

Addison, Mr. defends Dr. *Garth* against Mr. *Prior*, 329.

Address of the Commons to King *William*, 147. The King's Answer, 148. Of both Houses for continuing the War, 268. Answered by the Queen, 270.

Alliance, Grand, the first, formed by King *William*, Occasion of it, 5. The second, 225. Articles of it, 226. How observed by the *Dutch* and *Germans*, 445, &c.

Allies unsuccessful under King *William*, 17.

Anjou, Duke of, proclaimed King of *Spain*, 190. Acknowledged by King *William*, 200.

Archduke, *Charles*, the Conditions subjoined to his Lot in the Partition Treaty so many Snares laid by *France*, 97.

Anspach, Princess of, refuses to turn Papist, and marry the King of *Spain*, 280.

Anne, Queen, writes to the Diët of the Empire for continuing the War with Vigour, 296.

B

Barrier demanded by the *English* and *Dutch*, 193. Treaty, some Account of it, 452.

Bavaria, Duke of, his Picture by Mr. *Prior*, 250, 251. Writes to the Duke of *Marlborough*, 253.

Blaregnies, or *Malplaquet*, Battle of, 290.

Blenheim, Battle of, an Account of it, 233. Remarks on Mr. *Prior's* Poem thereon, 237.

Boileau, answered by Mr. *Prior*, 17, 237.

Bolingbroke, Lord, sent Ambassador to *France*, 359. His Instructions, *ibid*. His own Account of his Negotiations, 360. See the Article *Letters*.

Boscawen, Mr. Justice, Mr. *Prior* sworn before him, 416. His Behaviour during Mr. *Prior's* Examination, 420, 423, 426, 432. A Blunder of his, 434. Plays the

I N D E X.

the Moralist, *ibid.*

Barnet, Bishop, a Misrepresentation of his, 2.

C.

Commons, House of, address against the Partition Treaty, 193. Advise the King to act in concert with the *Dutch*, 199. Address his Majesty to remove the Lords *Somers*, *Portland*, *Halifax*, and *Orford* from his Councils, 204. Send Articles against Lord *Orford*, 206, Lord *Somers*, 207, Lord *Halifax*, 209. Their Difference with the House of Lords on these Impeachments, 212, &c. Charge Lord *Haversham* for Words he had spoken, 215.

Coningsby, Lord, his Behaviour at Mr. *Prior's* Examination, 418, 420, 423, 424, 430, 431, 432, 434, 435. Satirised by Mr. *Prior*, 435. *n.*

Cosmo, Father, an Account of him, 157.

D.

Drift, Mr. *Adrian*, his Letter and Verses to the Earl of *Oxford*, 464.

Dunkirk, the States would never consent to the besieging it, 456.

Dutch make Overtures to *France* during the War, 440, 441. Their Advantages of the *English* in the War, 449, 450. by the Barrier Treaty, 453. To make Peace for us, and we War for them, 457.

Dyckvelt, M. confers privately about a Peace before he takes a public Character, 424.

E.

Emperor, the Submission shewn to him by the *English*, 448, 449. His Advantage in prolonging the War, 455.

Erle, Mr. leaves the Committee at Mr. *Prior's* Examination, 432.

Examination, Mr. *Prior's*, before a Committee of the Privy Council, 417—435.

Examiner, an Account of that Paper, 305. Mr. *St. John's* Letter to the Author of, 306. No. 6. written by Mr. *Prior*, 318.

I N D E X.

F.

Fable of the Lion's Share verified, a large Extract from that Piece, 69—104.

Flesh, Warrant to Mr. *Prior* for eating it during Lent, 406.

France, King of, see *Lewis*.

France, its Design in the Peace of *Ryswick*, 69. In declaring for the Duke of *Bavaria*, 71. In the Treaty of Partition, 76. In publishing that Treaty, 77. Its Pretensions to the Monarchy of *Spain* groundless, 86. No trusting it, 90.

French Intrigues at the Court of *Spain*, 53. Danger from the Increase of their Power, 88. Their Reasons for breaking off the *Hague* Treaty, 287.

G.

Gallas, Count, a satirical Saying of his to Queen *Anne*, 450.

Garth, Dr. his Poem on the Earl of *Godolphin*, 320. Criticised by Mr. *Prior*, 321, &c. Defended by Mr. *Addison*, 329, &c.

Gertruydenburgh, Negotiations there, 298. Remarks on them, 300.

Ghent and *Bruges* delivered up to the *French*, 272.

Gloucester, Duke of, his Death, 185.

H.

Hague, Congress of, its Occasion, 3. Great Persons present at it, 6. Conferences there, broke off by the *French*, 284, &c.

Halifax, Lord, charged with advising the Partition Treaty, 197. Articles against him, 209. His Answer, 211.

Hanover, House of, the Succession settled in it, 186.

Harley, Mr. comes into the Ministry, 305. See Earl of *Oxford* in the Article *Letters*.

Haversham, Lord, speaks some Words which the Commons resent, 214, 215. Answers the Commons Charge, 217. Acquitted, 222.

J.

James, the late King, dies at *St. Germain's*, 225.

Jen-

I N D E X.

Jennings, Admiral, waits upon the *French King* with Mr. *Prior*, 400.

Jersey, Earl of, Ambassador to *France*, 39. His Character, *ibid.* See the Article *Letters*.

Journal of Mr. *Prior's* Negotiations at the Court of *France*, 389—412.

K.

Kidd the Pirate, his Story, 144.

L.

Lechmere, Mr. his Behaviour at Mr. *Prior's* Examination, 417, 420.

Letters, Negotiations for the Correspondence of, 397. Treaty for that Purpose, 402.

Letters and Extracts of Letters. From Mr. *Prior* to the Hon. Mr. *Berkley*, in *Latin* and *English*, 11, 12. From King *William* to Lord *Somers*, 45. Lord *Somers's* Answer, 47. From the Earl of *Manchester* to the Earl of *Jersey*, 105, 106, 107, 110, 112, 117, 121, 122, 126, 134, 154, 161. From the Earl of *Jersey* to the Earl of *Manchester*, 116, 125, 161, 163. From Mr. *Blaithwait* to the Earl of *Manchester*, 107. From Mr. *Prior* to the Earl of *Manchester*, 114, 120, 127, 140, 142, 159, 164, 165, 168, 170, 171, 173, 181. From the Earl of *Manchester* to Mr. *Prior*, 136, 138, 156, 175, 179, 180. To Mr. *Montague*, 139. From King *William* to the Duke of *Anjou*, 200. From the Duke of *Marlborough* to Mr. Secretary *Harley*, 233. From the Elector of *Bavaria* to the Duke of *Marlborough*, 253. The Duke's Answer, 255. From Mr. *St. John* to the Author of the Examiner, 306. To Lord *Raby*, 340, 343, 355. To the Queen, 349. From M. de *Torcy* to Mr. *Prior*, 388. From Lord *Raby* to Mr. *St. John*, 341, 344. From M. de *Torcy* to Lord *Bolingbroke*, 358. From Lord *Bolingbroke* to the Earl of *Dartmouth*, 360. To Mr. *Prior*, 365, 373, 378, 380, 386, 387. Mr. *Prior* to Lord *Bolingbroke*, 384. From the King of *France* to Queen *Anne*, 375. The Queen's Answer, 377. From Mr. *Prior* to the Earl of *Oxford*, 381, 382, 383, 385. Duke of *Shrewsbury* to Mr. *Prior*, 413. Lord *Halifax* to Mr. *Prior*, 414, 415.

Secre-

I N D E X.

- Secretary *Stanhope* to Mr. *Prior*, 415. Mr. *Prior* to Mr. *Daniel Arthur*, 459. Mr. *Drift* to Lord *Oxford*, 464. Mr. Secretary *Stanhope* to General *St. Saphorin*, 466, 470.
- Lewis*, XIV. his Schemes, 5, 69, &c. Behaviour on the King of *Spain's* Death, 190. Writes to the Queen by Mr. *Prior*, 275.
- Lillienroot*, the Baron Van, Mediator at *Ryswick*, 21, &c.
- Lisle* besieged, 277. Taken, 278.
- Lords*, House of, address against the Partition Treaty, 194. Censure the Negotiating it without the Advice of Council, 195. Address against removing the impeached Lords, 205. Remind the Commons of trying Lord *Orford*, 211. Insist on their Right, upon which a Difference breaks out between the two Houses, 213, &c. Acquit Lord *Somers* upon the Commons not appearing against him, 218, and the other impeached Lords, 222.

M.

- Manchester*, Earl of, Ambassador to *Venice*, 41. To *France*, 41. His Character, *ibid.* His Speech to the French King, 130. Returns home, 225. See the Article *Letters*.
- Marlborough*, Duke of, his Account of the Battle of *Blenheim*, 231. Plenipotentiary at the *Hague*, 284.
- Medley*, a Paper in Opposition to the Examiner, 338.
- Memorial* of the *Spanish* Secretary on the Partition Treaty, 58. Of the *Spanish* Ambassador at *London* on the same, 61. Of Mr. *Stanhope* at the Court of *Spain*, 65. Remarks on these Memorials, 69.
- Mesnager*, Mr. arrives in *England* with Mr. *Prior*, 348. Treats with the *English* Ministry, 349, 352, &c.
- Mons* taken, 295.

N.

- Namur* taken, and Mr. *Prior's* Ballad on that Subject, 17.
- Negotiation*, a Mock one drawn up by the Allies, 448.
- Negotiations* of Peace at the *Hague* and at *Ryswick*, 20, 37, 252, &c.

O.

- Onslow*, Mr. leaves the Committee at Mr. *Prior's* Examination, 432.
- Orford*, Earl of, charged with advising the Partition Treaty,

I N D E X.

Treaty, 197. Articles against him, 206. His Answer, 207.

Oudenarde, Battle of, a particular Account of it, 273.

P.

Partition Treaty, the first, Occasion of it, 43. Signed, 51. Articles of it, 52. The second, 57. Its Injustice and Enormity, 79. Absurdity of the Motives to it, 88. *French Renunciations* in it mere Illusions, 91. Addressed against, and Proceedings thereupon, 193, &c. Remarks on the Proceedings, 223.

Peace, Negotiations of, 20. Overtures of, made by the *French*, 252, 282, 295. Propositions of, 338, 345.

Peterborough, Lord, waits upon the *French King*, 400.

Petticum, Mr. his Negotiations, 283.

Portland, Earl of, sent Ambassador to *France*, 38. His Character, *ibid.* Charged with making the Partition Treaty, 197. Impeached for negotiating it, 202.

Pretender Proclaimed, 225.

Prior, Mr. his Youth misrepresented, 1. Appointed Secretary at the *Hague*, 2. His Ballad on *Namur*, 17. His Verses on the Plot, 19. In *England*, 41. His Answer to a *French Courtier*, 42. Sent to *France*, 125. Returns, 134. Writes his Panegyric on the King, 144, 149. Remarks on that Piece, with Extracts from it, 150, &c. Chosen a Member of Parliament, 185. Votes for impeaching the Partition Treaty, 223. His Conduct in Times of War, 231. His political Poems in Queen *Anne's* Reign, 232. His Epistle to *Boileau*, Remarks on it, 237, &c. And on his Ode on the Battle of *Ramillies*, 248. Concerned in writing the Examiner, 305. His Remarks on a Poem of Dr. *Garth's*, 318. A Riddle of his, 328. Sent to *France* with Propositions, 344. Seized at his Return, 348. Appointed to treat with Mr. *Mesnager*, 353. Left in *France* by Lord *Bolingbroke*, 364. Sent into *England* with a recommendatory Letter by the *French King*, 375. Returns with an Answer from the Queen, 377. His Journal at the Court of *France*, 389. Applies for the Payment of his Arrears, 413. Returns to *England*, and is taken into Custody, 416. His own Account of his Examination before a Committee of Council,

I N D E X.

417—435. Objects to the Heads of Examination drawn up for him to sign, 433. But signs them, 434. His Answer to the Report of the Secret Committee, 436—458. Ordered into close Custody on a Motion of Mr. *Walpole's*, 459. Dies, *ibid.* State of his Accompts, 461. See the Article *Letters*.
Protestant Religion, the little Care taken of it by the *Dutch* in their Preliminaries, 249.

Q.

Quota's of Forces agreed on at the *Hague* Congress, 13.

R.

Ramillies, Battle of, described, 244. Mr. *Prior's* Ode thereon, 248.
Remarks on the *French* Overtures, and the Refusal of them, 258. On the Campaign of 1707, 264. On the Negotiations at *Gertruydenburgh*, 300.
Ryswick, Congress of, 22. Preliminary Articles there, 23. List of Plenipotentiaries there, 25. Their Proceedings, 30, &c. Articles concluded on, 33. Omissions in the Treaty, 37.
St. John. Mr. taken into the Ministry, 305. His Letter to the *Examiner*, 306. See the Articles *Bolingbroke* and *Letters*.
Savoy, private Treaty with, 21.
Spain, *Charles II.* King of, dies, 189. His Will, 190.
Spanish Monarchy, the Dismembring it a Master-Piece of *French* Policy, 102.
Spanish Ambassador sent away, 65.
Speech, King *William's*, at the *Hague* Congress, 13. Lord *Manchester's* to the *French* King, 130. His Majesty's Answer, 132.
Sobieski, Princess, Arguments against the Emperor's releasing her, 466, &c.
Somers, Lord, his Letter on the Partition Treaty, 47. charged with advising it, 197. Impeached on that Head, 203. Articles against him, 207. His Answer, 208.
Stairs, Earl of, succeeds Mr. *Prior* at the Court of *France*, 412.
Stanhope, Mr. Secretary, his Behaviour at Mr. *Prior's* Examination, 417, 419, 420, 424, 430, 431, 432. Writes

I N D E X.

Writes against the Princess *Sobieski's* Release, 466.
Translation of his Letter, 469.
Succession in the House of *Hanover* settled, 186. Articles
of it, 187.

T.

Torcy, M. de, at the *Hague*, 283. Refuses to sign the
Preliminaries, 286. His first Propositions sent to
England, 338.
Tournay besieged and taken, 289.
Townshend, Lord, Plenipotentiary at the *Hague*, 284.
Treating separately, justifiable in the several Parties of
an Alliance, 440, 442, &c.

U.

Utrecht, the Negotiations there, 357.

W.

Wager, Commodore, his Success against the Galleons,
281.
Walpole, Mr. Chairman at Mr. *Prior's* Examination,
417, 427, 429, 430, 431, 432. Moves for an
Impeachment against him, 450.
War, unequally carried on for the *English*, 445, 448,
450.
Whig-Examiner, No. 1. by Mr. *Addison*, 329. Account
of that Paper, 318, 337.
William, King, his favourite Project, 5. His Speech at
opening the Congress at the *Hague*, 13. An origi-
nal Warrant of his, 35. His Letter to Lord *Somers*,
on the Partition Treaty, 45. Goes into *Germany*,
and procures a Peace in *Hungary*, 55. Is mortified at
home, *ibid.* 56. Answers the Address against the
Partition Treaty, 197. Forms the second Grand
Alliance, 225. His last Parliament, 230. His
Death, 231.
Wynendale, Battle of, 277.

